## OPPOSING VIEWS

### Same-sex marriage amendment heightens controversy

**SERGIO BONILLA**  
**Asst. News Director**

Two polarized sides on same-sex marriage engaged in a series of verbal exchanges at the Rafael Diaz Balart Hall Auditorium on Oct. 26. The Stonewall Legal Alliance of the College of Law and Law Student Organizations organized the Amendment 2 debate and scheduled representatives for each side.

Amendment 2 is a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage on the Nov. 4 ballot. Those voting “yes” on the amendment will end the institution of civil unions on state levels.

Amendment 2 is currently in favor and faces strong opposition. Opponents are represented by Professor Jose Gabilondo, an associate law professor.

**EXTENDING THE WORD:** Prof. Jose Gabilondo argues against Amendment 2 on Oct. 25.

Gabilondo spoke first about the subtle meaning behind the proposition.

“Amendment 2 is a social signal,” Gabilondo said. “It sends a message with two underlying points. One, there is something inferior, objectionable, immoral, wrong, desirable about being gay.”

“Two, heterosexuality is better, worthy of normative protection.”

Although they had to split their time, the Westboro Baptist Church representatives sparked the most gasping reactions from the audience.

“In order to be designated a protective class, you must have historically been discriminated against on the basis of an immutable attribute,” Phelps said.

During his segment, Gabilondo wanted to make it clear to the audience that Amendment 2 is an anti-gay initiative. Both opponents and supporters have reason to deny that the proposition is against homosexuals. Gabilondo stated that some of the amendment’s language is vague and could negatively affect some heterosexual unmarried couples as well.

“Two, heterosexuals are desired by a minority for the sake of personal gratification, for self-interest, for the security of being considered desirable, for the sake of maintaining the standard of living and the social status of those who support the opposition to same-sex marriage.”

Gabilondo also detailed the subtle meaning behind the proposition.

“The whole investigation is now being investigated by the State Attorney. It could result in charges for the employee.”

Ricardo Torres, Lieutenant Public Safety

Amendment 2 is an attack that contradicts the notion of respect, dignity, and equality.

“University human relations procedures preclude us from commenting any further on this matter,” said Athletic Director Pete Garcia, in a statement released to The Beacon.

Multiple attempts for comment from Athletics were declined. The department refuses to state what information they turned over to the State Attorney’s office.

Gregory Mineau, 21, was tackled and arrested on the night of Oct. 11 after rushing onto the football field following the 31-21 victory against Middle Tennessee University. He was charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest without violence and trespassing after being warned.

Mineau alleged that an Athletics employee hit him behind the head as he ran onto the field.

“I was then taken down by a [Contemporary Services Corporation] employee and a couple of people tackled me from behind, which I assumed were policemen at the time. They took me to the ground. As I was lying on the ground, I felt two hits to the back of my head,” Mineau said in an interview with The Beacon two weeks ago.

CSC is the company in charge of crowd control and security at FIU events.

Mineau was unavailable for comment about the recent developments.

A video posted on Student Media’s Web site, fiusm.com, shows the incident in its entirety.

Public Safety would only say that it gave their conclusions on the incident to the State Attorney’s office.

“The whole investigation as far as involvement between the student and the Athletics employee was submitted to the State Attorney’s office,” said Bill King, chief of Public Safety. “After it is reviewed, we can give a further and definitive statement about the incident.”

The investigation is not completely over, however.

“What was once an internal investigation involving Public Safety and Athletics is now being investigated by the State. It could result in charges for the employee,” said Lieutenant Ricardo Torres, who headed the investigation, to the local NBC News affiliate.  

“I can’t go into details of what the employee admitted to, but the video shows what took place,” Torres said.

Some feel the incident should be remembered to prevent recurrences.

“It was an unfortunate incident overall. We should move on in the right direction. I think people should know and have more awareness as to the rules at football games to avoid another incident like that one,” said Jean Roseme, Student Government Association speaker of the Senate.

Mineau is set for arraignment on Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m. in a Miami Beach courtroom.
Professor talks about Obama's worldwide impact

ELISIE PUIG
Staff Writer

The Wertheim Performing Arts Center became, for a night, a backdrop to recreate the British West Indies and celebrate the African-American president, regulars in electing an African-American president, and the “Obama Phenomenon” in a historical context.

The event was the tenth annual Eric E. Williams Memorial Lecture as part of the Distinguished Africana Scholars Lecture Series, held on Friday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

A mold Rampersad, a distinguished historian and the Sara Hart Kimball Professor Emeritus in the Humanities at Stanford University, hosted the event. His presentation was titled “The Challenge of Leadershhip in America: Race, History, and the Emergence of Barack Obama.”

Before Rampersad was introduced, the audience were greeted by the Honorary Consul General of Trinidad and Tobago, Gerard Greene, and introduced Rampersad.

“By tracing the steps from slavery to this auspicious moment, I have shown a disconnect between the white America I know and the America on the brink of choosing a black man as president,” Rampersad said.

“Race is a deterministic factor and the past does weigh heavily. Why do you think so many people find it intriguing?” said Christopher Day, a senior majoring in political science.

“In a sense, Barack Obama is being used by the U.S. to gain a favorable light in the international stage, to the rest of the world,” he said. “And to have the farsightedness to see through color.”

After the lecture, a short Q&A regarding race, especially “white America,” took place.

“Can you tell me this much, if Obama is elected president, the world’s perception of the U.S. will change drastically, but I would not vote for him if he were a conservative black man,” said Emet Newton, a Broward accountant who has attended the lecture ever since its inception 10 years ago.

LET’S DO THE TIMEWARP

SCARY STUFF: FIU theater students perform the Halloween classic, “Rocky Horror Picture Show” on Friday Oct 24 in Deuxieme Maison 150.

AMIGAS

AMIGAS is a health program that creates a comfortable setting for women to discuss topics related with health, in particular the risks dealing with VIH/SIDA.

For your participation you can receive certificates with a value up to $270.00.
New dean of undergraduate education appointed

The new dean of undergraduate education, Dr. Douglas Reimond Robertson, was appointed by Provost Ronald M. Berkman. Robertson is currently the assistant provost at North Kentucky University. The position was previously held by Dr. Rosa Jones, who served as the president of Student Affairs and the dean of Undergraduate Education, simultaneously.

“We are grateful for her service and commitment to FIU,” Berkman said in a memorandum sent to the University community. “Vice President Jones will continue as vice president for Student Affairs.”

Dr. Robertson is the senior editor of a book series on college teaching published by New Forums Press. Also, he is the Editor of Thriving in A cadre, the college teaching section in the National Education Association’s Higher Education Advocate.

He will officially assume the duties as the dean of undergraduate education on Dec. 1.

School of Nursing takes the ‘LEED’

The new College of Nursing & Health Science building has been officially LEED registered by projected leaders and college officials. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a third-party certification and the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of sustainable green building and developmental practices.

“Last year I, on behalf of the entire FIU community, made a public commitment to continue on a path of environmentally responsible and sustainable development,” said University President Modesto A. Maidique in a press release.

“We tried to reach out to more moderate groups like the Christian Family Coalition,” Montoya said.

Senior Amanda Cornell was left disappointed with the speakers supporting Amendment 2.

“I respect their opinion. It’s just horrible that they can’t accept other people that are just different than them,” Cornell said about the propositions.

President of the Stonewall Alliance at Biscayne Bay Campus Danny Gomez did not feel the debate focused enough on Amendment 2. “It bothered me that they didn’t talk about Amendment 2,” Gomez said.

Gomez added that both sides got a chance to explain why voters should uphold or abolish the proposition, but Gabilondo also hoped the debate would have been more politically oriented.

“I hoped that we would discuss issues and not people,” he said.

DILIGENTLY WATCHING

Marc Delara, a biology major, and Hassel Rojas, a chemistry and biology major, work on an online class while eating in GC.

HPV FACTS: #9

ALL WORK: Marc Delara, a biology major, and Hassel Rojas, a chemistry and biology major, work on an online class while eating in GC.
Reading series showcases renowned authors, poets

SHERVIN BAIN
BBC Recruitment Editor

Dishwasher, receptionist, education activist, theater director and author, Alison Smith is making her way to FIU to read from her memoir "Name All the Animals." Smith, who was also a newspaper reporter and teacher, is the featured guest for the Barnes and Noble Writers on the Bay reading series, which will take place in the Biscayne Bay Campus bookstore at 8 p.m. on Oct. 29.

"No writer I know has written as realistically, and as meaningfully about grief and about faith as Alison Smith," said Dan Wakefield, writer in residence in the Creative Writing Program, and author of "Returning: A Spiritual Journey.

"Name All the Animals," a memoir published in 2005, is based on Smith’s life and gives insight to the death of her brother, based on Smith's life and gives insight to the death of her brother, and the struggles she endured at her Catholic school as an outcast.

"It’s to let students and interested community members have the chance to meet, listen to, talk with and ask questions of noted contemporary authors," Standiford said.

The Barnes & Noble Writers on the Bay reading series is free thanks to a grant the Creative Writing Program received from Barnes & Noble.

Barnes and Noble made a grant of $350,000 to support various activities of the Creative Writing program.

The last installment of the gift was paid in 2008, according to Standiford.

"The event is meant to target students, but anyone can come," said Craig Cunningham, director of the Division of Student Affairs at BBC.

The "BBC Rocks the Vote" fair will also include possible “political and/or celebrity appearances,” according to an SGC-BBC flyer.

Stonewall BBC, the League of Women Voters, Federal Jack, Florida Ballot, visit http://election.dos.state.fl.us/.

"Because there's so much interest in this election, there will be long lines, so we encourage early voting," Cunningham said.

Voter education fair informs about the real issues

DAIANA KUCAWCA
Staff Writer

In its efforts to promote early voting, or voting at all, the Student Government Council-Biscayne Bay Campus and BBC Campus Life will be holding a voter education fair, "BBC Rocks the Vote" will take place Oct. 29 in Panther Square in the Wolfe University Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be free pizza and drinks for rally participants.

While the event was originally set to take place Oct. 15, SGC-BBC decided to move the event.

"They needed more time to solidify organizational efforts to get political parties to come," said Natalie Cohen, marketing specialist for SGC-BBC.

As an additional incentive, a complimentary shuttle bus will be provided from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. to take people from BBC to the North Miami Public Library for early voting.

"The event is a rally to provide education to people on candidates, amendments and additional info on the ballot," Cohen said.

SGC-BBC has no political affiliation with any party or voter registration group, and is "not allowed to be partisan," Cohen said.

The event is not related to the now famous "Rock the Vote" national campaign, despite the similarity in the two campaign names.

"I understand the confusion, but this is the 'BBC Rocks the Vote Event,'" Cohen said.

The event is free and open to the public, and because of the close proximity of several voting precincts, people from Aventura and North Miami can take the shuttle bus.

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Carnival gift to result in new student center

MONIQUE TAVARES
Contributing Writer

Carnival Cruise Lines and the School of Hospitality Management have come together in a venture, according to a proposal made by the School to Carnival, will help the School meet the challenges of the new millennium.

The company awarded the School a $900,000 grant, which is matched with $700,000 from the state of Florida.

This gift will be used toward the creation of a student center and additional scholarships, according to Jessica Siskind, director of development for the School of Hospitality Management.

"The student center will be a place that will meet some of the needs of the students," Siskind said. "Since so many of our students live off campus, having a formal and informal gathering place is essential to developing a collegial and professional atmosphere for growth and development."

The center, which will be named The Carnival Student Center, will feature meeting rooms to be used by student organizations, an advising office, a resource room and a space for special projects. It will take 3,000 square-feet, overlooking the bay.

The new student center is estimated to be open by the end of 2009, according to Interim Dean Mohammad A. Qureshi.

"It was my first time to hear a presentation like this," said Yumi Yokoi, employed by the cruise line.

Several School of Hospitality Management alumni are currently working at Carnival. There will be a reception Oct. 30 to celebrate the grant, held at the Reagan House at University Park. It will be hosted by University President Modesto A. Maidique and his wife, as well as Dean Joseph J. West.

Hospitality Management law professor dies at 81

PAMELA DUQUE
Assistant News Director

Elio C. Bellucci, J.D., a naval veteran of World War II and professor of law at the School of Hospitality Management, died Oct. 22.

Dr. Bellucci, who suffered from diabetes, had been in intensive care for the past three weeks, but lost the battle from complications at the age of 81.

"He was a wonderful man. If we had more people like him in this world, things would be a better place," said Steven M. Olli, associate professor in the School of Hospitality Management.

Bellucci came to the University 25 years ago, according to Olli, and was introduced to the University by Anthony G. Marshall, former dean of the School, and since then got involved in several activities.

He was a seminar leader, a lecturer, author and nationally recognized expert on laws that apply to the hospitality industry, according to the School of Hospitality Management.

He served three terms as member of the University’s Faculty Senate, and was a member of the University’s Provost’s Council of 51 as the representative of the School of Hospitality Management and of the University Graduate Council.

"It was Dean [Joseph] West who felt that there was a need for students to be able to gather, socialize, have computer access and hold meetings all in one place," said Qureshi, who is also in charge of facilities. "With this gift, we will be able to renovate and upgrade our resources."

The Carnival Scholarship Endowment fund was created to help the School recruit and educate the best students in the industry, according to Siskind.

"It will provide outstanding students with a high-quality college education at a reasonable cost," Siskind said.

The scholarships will be available to undergraduate and graduate students who show outstanding academic performance and a passion for the industry of hospitality and tourism, according to the proposal written to Carnival.

The School is one of the best in the world, with a 100 percent placement rate for graduates according to its Web site. It has also been named a “Program of Distinction” by the former Florida Board of Regents, and four faculty members were recognized among the “85 Most Prolific Authors.”

Students and faculty of the School are appreciative of the award and what it will bring to the program.

"It was my first time to hear this news, and we are grateful for the money," said Yumi Yokoi, a junior majoring in hospitality management.

The School and Carnival have a long-standing partnership, and several School of Hospitality Management alumni are currently employed by the cruise line.

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Even in the midst of crisis, students can beat stress

ODETTE BARRIENTOS
Staff Writer

The economic situation we are facing is lead- ing us to make numerous, dangerous cuts. We are following a pattern where health insurance is becoming more and more a priority to keep it a priority in our budgets. Over the last few years, more Americans have been uninsured or underinsured.

Statistics from an August 2008 report from the Commonwealth Fund Biennial Health Insurance Survey show that in 2007, approximately two-thirds of U.S. adults struggled to make ends meet, and 46 percent of working-age adults re- ported cutting back on medical care.

In 2005, 58 million of working-age adults re- ported having medical debt or problems paying medical bills. Among adults with chronic health problems, more than 60 percent who were uninsured during that year and 46 percent who were underinsured reported cutting back on medications because of the cost.

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A little extra planning saves a lot of money, makes your vacation dreams possible

Don’t let the current economic crisis discourage you from fulfilling your travel goals. Here are some tips to follow if you’re still looking to travel this semester and wish to do so on a budget. You can find information online on how to travel cheap, but the University also offers ways to see the world while learning and traveling at the same time.

WHEN TO TRAVEL

You won’t get the best deal by booking at the last minute. Getting the cheapest possible fare depends on your trip’s timing, how far ahead you plan, how long you stay at your destination and how flexible you can be on days and hours of your travel.

Travelers have a better chance of finding a cheaper fare if they avoid peak hours of travel, such as early morning and late afternoon. Midday departures and red-eye flights are often cheaper. Try departing midweek, on a Wednesday or Thursday, and return on a Monday or Tuesday.

CHOOSING YOUR AIRLINE

Some airlines list discounted trips each Wednesday for the following weekend. Airlines will also run frequent specials on their Web sites. Priceline.com seems to be very helpful. It lets the consumer bid for a flight and can come out with a surprisingly low rate. Another way to find low airfares is to choose a less crowded and less expensive airport to fly into or out of. The last piece of advice is to travel when the tourist season is low. It is a great way to score reasonable prices.

WHERE TO STAY

In the United States, there are several camping sites in which the prices can start as low as $8. In Central America, hotels are generally cheap all around. In Costa Rica, for example, you can find places to stay for $5 to $12 per night. Stay away from tourist areas because prices are usually higher there. Instead, eat and sleep in a neighboring town and travel to your destination for sightseeing. Mexico has its bungalows or cabanas at low prices, in the $30 to $40 range if you stay in the smaller towns. It’s best to commit to three days or a week at a hotel in order to get a better price. Traveling in the off-season (July through Nov.) is always significantly cheaper than vacation months.

OTHER ALTERNATIVES

For students who want to kill two birds with one stone, there is always the possibility of signing up for a University study abroad program. The annual Study Abroad Fair is being held on Nov. 5 in the Graham Center Hall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to inform students on how to get involved in upcoming trips. Each year, approximately 500 University students participate in study abroad programs in over 20 different countries. The programs are open to both FIU and non-FIU students.
Miami artist captures the masculine sensibility

STEEL, page 7

Miami artist, Koven, creates a set of rules for the installation that forces participants to make decisions that mirror themselves and create consequences for their actions. For example, in order to participate, you must make a stone, let it cure and give it up so you can move on to step two. Another visitor will use the stone that you leave something behind at the mercy of another's discretion, or take something with you. Fortunately, we are not in ancient Rome, where they threw stones as punishment. However, Kahil Wilfert, my second artist pick of the week, who is represented at Catalyst Gallery, has depicted a very significant tale from Roman times. In his painting, "Oath," Wilfert combines a group of Roman soldiers pledging themselves in front of a television. The entire painting has a background of newsprint propaganda which the artist plastered all over the canvas. Wilfert, who is also a Miamiartist, makes a bold reference to "The Oath of the Horatii," originally painted by the neoclassicist painter, Jacques-Louis David. Wilfert evokes a sense of masculinity in all of his works, whether it addresses the drastic differences between female and male sexuality, or embraces how men are even objectified in our world today.

The magic of Wilfert's work is that in his abstractive realism, he brings imagery that is appealing and presents it in such a way that you feel empathy and a connection with being a male and how, in current society, the commodity fetishes of our culture are constantly thrust upon men.

In all of Wilfert's work, two things remain consistent. He uses a newspaper background and he depicts flesh of a figure as having repetitive swirling in a variety of flesh tones. These swirls add a context of imperfection and emotion and, to the artist, this technique makes them "more human," restoring photorealism which is very similar to neoclassicism. In "Oath," conceptually working with the issues of repetitive history, Wilfert juxtaposes two eras in art that oppose each other, Neo-classicism and the Baroque Era.

My LIFE! EXPERIENCE

Recounting the passing of an influential loved one

I said bye to my grandmother for the last time this summer. She'd been dying for quite a while—five years perhaps—from a cancer that was as persistent and determined as the woman it was slowly killing.

For my family and her neighbors, she was the anchor we all held on to, that wise voice we all sought to hear.

I remember more than a hundred people piled in her small house, lining the walls, overflowing onto the street where they sat in the piercing cold of Ed Callao, the main Peruvian seaport, at two in the morning.

I remember the final time she left the house she was born into. The coffin was held high by six black men, purebred chalacos born and raised in the port and, just as she exited, the sun broke through the piercing grey winter and shined down on her coffin as it passed through a thick curtain of multicolored rose petals that fell from the porch above.

I remember the exact moment of her death.

She spent weeks in one of the state hospitals that had five people to every room. The rooms had no walls, no doors and a small corridor separated hers from another room where five more terminally ill women slept.

I found myself, six days after my arrival, standing in the cold looking through a small window at my mother gently lifting, repositioning and comforting my abuelita. My mom just happened to look up and motioned me to come inside, even though only one visitor was allowed in at a time, but it was an early Friday afternoon and not many people were around. It was quiet.

I sat down to the right of her as my mom talked quietly to a nurse on her left. I held her hand.

And then she gasped, as if she was trying to bring us to attention, and when I turned to look at her, one tear slid down her cheek.

The nurse called her death about ten minutes later but she faded so quietly that I'm still not sure if she hadn't already left us after her last tear fell.

For half an hour, she lay there, my mom crying quietly on top of her and me at the foot of her bed. The whole building seemed to stand still and it was peaceful. Two nurses approached and I heard one whisper to the other and remark how calm we were.

Even four months later, I can remember all this vividly, but what I remember most is standing in my kitchen during the long summer months when she'd come up to take care of my brothers and me.

With one hand on her hip, the other stirring arroz con leche (one of my brother's favorite desserts) with a wooden spoon, she stood statuesque, more than half a foot taller than my petite five-foot and one-inch.

She rose above the limitations of her...
Fearless, relentless relative leaves enduring legacy

BACIGALUPO, page 8

generation — a Latin American woman living in a seaport ghetto with a high school education — and opened her own business in the mid-nineties.

She was fearless, innovative, tough. She was passionate and had ambition and nothing ever stopped her from reaching her goals.

I can’t imagine what she could have accomplished had she been born into the life I’ve led.

I once wrote for a college application that one day I’d like to look back on my life knowing I’d done my best just like her. More than anything I want to make her proud.

Fearless, relentless relative leaves enduring legacy

To the very end, and even after the end, she keeps skillfully, gracefully, forcefully conducting the heartbeat of the family like Leonard Bernstein masterfully leading his orchestra through “Candide.”

I know that from above she’s watching all of us grow, and although I said bye to her for the last time this summer, I know she walks beside me every day ... sometimes I can even hear her laugh when I wake up in the morning.

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 28

WHAT: “Give ‘Til It Hurts” Blood Drive
WHERE: In front of GC Bookstore and between Blue and Gold Garages
WHEN: 11 a.m
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: Phi Sigma Sigma Make A Difference Week
WHERE: GC Pit
WHEN: 8 a.m
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: Interfraternity Council Greek Night
WHERE: Gracie’s Grill
WHEN: 5 p.m

WHAT: Service for Peace Meeting
WHERE: GC 340
WHEN: 5 p.m

WHAT: Caribbean Student Association Meeting
WHERE: GC 140
WHEN: 5 p.m

WHAT: Anything Goes Anime General Meeting
WHERE: GC 340
WHEN: 8 p.m

WHAT: National Society of Collegiate Scholars Meeting
WHERE: GC 314
WHEN: 5 p.m

WHAT: Yoga Club Meditations
WHERE: GC 340
WHEN: 8 p.m

Compiled By: Rosalyn Delgado

THIRD WEEK ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 27

WHAT: FIU Athletics and SGA Present: Kickin it for the Cure
WHERE: FIU Soccer
WHEN: 7 p.m
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: FIU Rotaract Club Meeting
WHERE: GC 150
WHEN: 6:15 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: New Times Iron Fork
WHERE: Miami Science Museum
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $25

WHAT: Undergraduate Economics Association Movie Series
WHERE: GC 140
WHEN: 2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

Compiled By: Rosalyn Delgado
VOTE

EARLY VOTE IN FLORIDA OCT 20 - NOV 2

NEAREST LOCATION          OCT 20 - NOV 2
WEST DADE REGIONAL LIBRARY MON - FRI 7AM - 3PM
9445 SW 24TH ST
MIAMI, FL
SAT 9AM - 1PM
SUN 1PM - 5PM

FOR OTHER LOCATIONS AND OTHER VOTING QUESTIONS, GO TO
VOTEFORCHANGE.COM
OR CALL 1-877-2-FL-OBAMA (1-877-235-6226)

PAID FOR BY OBAMA FOR AMERICA
Teams mostly in rebuilding mode for next few seasons

Playoff push.
The Dolphins still need a playmaker
that can take it to the house on any play,
a quarterback of the future (we still don’t
know what Chad Henne has to offer) and
help in the secondary (remember the game
against Arizona or Houston?).

Trick or treat? Will the Marlins make
any major moves in the offseason?

Treat? They’ll make moves alright, just
not the moves you expect. Look for the
Marlins to deal first baseman Mike Jacobs,
Jeremy Hermida, Scott Olsen and Kevin
Gregg for what else but some young arms.
This will open the door for Jorge Cantu
or prospect Gaby Sanchez to take over at
first. This will also allow Dallas M.C. Person
to show the organization he has something
left in the tank.

In AAA, he hit 42 home runs while
slugging .618 and having an OPS of .996.
The only concern: 168 strike outs - and the
Marlins don’t need any more of that.

With young pitchers like Ryan Tucker,
Chris Volstad and Andrew Miller waiting
in the wings, the loss of Gregg and Olsen
should be seamless. According to The
Miami Herald, the Marlins will be increase
their payroll from $22 million to $33 or
$35 million.

This will allow the retention of a lot
of their young talent - 16 of which are
arbitration-eligible.

Any starter the Marlins lose this season
can be easily replaced since their farm
system is deep with talent.

Russo: ‘I think the team overachieved last year’

AUDRINA BIGOS
Staff Writer

Being eliminated in the quarterfinal action of the
2008 Sun Belt Conference Championships in
March was the end to a season full of injuries
for women’s basketball.

The loss of three starters forced the Golden
Panthers to play two of their hurt players in or-
der to maintain momentum and put points on
the board.

In the 57-52 loss in the quarterfinals, Iva
Ciglar stepped up with a season-high of 21
points, while injured Monika Bosilj added 14.

“Considering the situation we were in, I
think the team overachieved last year,” said
head coach Cindy Russo.

Prior to the start of the 2007 season, three
starters graduated. “We started playing the girls
that were taking over the starters’ positions from
the year before, and then we lost them as well,”
Russo said.

Restructuring

A far losing two leading scorers during the
off season, the Golden Panthers are finding out
where their scoring will come from.

The Golden Panthers recruited sophomores
point guard Michelle Gonzalez during the off-
season. Gonzalez played at Cisco Junior College
in Texas.

Senior forward Jasmine Jenkins started in 30
of the team’s 31 games last season against the
University of South Florida.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning
after a season-ending hand injury six games into
the season. Gonzalez played at Cisco Junior College
last season, but this team is hungrier and their work
ethic is stronger,” said Russo.

Trick or treat? Will the Heat make the
playoffs?

Trick: With Pat the Rat operating be-
hind the scenes, the Heat is not looking
to make a push for title this year and the
make up of the roster will be completely
different by the end of the season.

Don’t expect the team to be as bad as
last season, but a playoff spot is out of the
picture as of now, unless the Heat makes
a blockbuster deal during the season.

A through the Heat have a healthy Dwyane
Wade and a scoring machine in Michael
Beasley, they don’t yet have a personality.

Rookie head coach Erik Spoelstra says
he wants the team to push the ball more
this year, but they don’t have the point
guard to do that and the rebounding ability
to start a break.

This team has no identity as of now, and
for anyone who says this roster has the in-
redients to produce another run like the

That team had post presence in Lamar
Odom and point guard Rafer Alston who
could move the ball and penetrate at will.

The main objective will be to get the
Heat as far under the cap by July 2010 so
they can make a run at LeBron James, Chris
Bosh, Dwyane Wade, Amare Stoudemire,
Carlos Boozer, Tracy McGrady and Tyson
Chandler who will be free agents that
summer.

But the key is to keep Wade happy
and I think the team can contend before
he decides to jump ship during the same
summer.

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**SPORTS**

**UNSTOPPABLE FORCE**

Volleyball continues to dominate SBC with road sweep

ANDREW JULIAN
Sports Director

At 20-4 and 10-1 in Sun Belt conference play, the FIU volleyball team has positioned itself for a top finish in the upcoming conference tournament, which it will host Nov. 20-22.

The Golden Panthers picked up two more conference road wins, and extended their season high winning streak to eight games.

For head coach Danijela Tomic, it is the third straight season that she’s guided her squad to a winning streak of at least eight contests. Both of the previous streaks were extended to nine games before they were snapped.

**FIU 3, UALR 1**

The Golden Panthers visited the UALR Trojans, who entered the contest in second place in the Sun Belt west division, and were able to come away with a four-set victory.

It was the fifth consecutive road victory for FIU, who took the match 25-17, 25-17, 25-17, 25-19. It was the second time this season FIU dropped the first set and was still able to come back to win the match.

Junior setter Natalia Valentín played, arguably, her best match of the season, making significant contributions on both the offensive and defensive sides of the ball.

Valentín had 42 assists, a season high six kills, and added 16 digs, another season high. Offensively, Yarimar Rosa led the Golden Panthers once again, with 23 kills, her 12th 20-plus-kill game this season. Gaby Jaimes had her best offensive match of the season, with a career high 11 kills and a .333 hitting percentage.

FIU played a sloppy first set, with a paltry .042 attack percentage for the opening frame that featured 11 FIU errors.

In set two, FIU found its offensive rhythm, making just one error in 21 total attacks, and hitting .619.

In the three sets the Golden Panthers won, they made a total of eight errors, three fewer than the whole first set.

**BOX SCORE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FIU</th>
<th>UALR</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total blocks</td>
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**FIU 3, UARK ST. 1**

FIU completed its Sun Belt conference road schedule with a victory at Arkansas State.

Two Trojans had double digit kills in the match. Amila Barakevic had 14 scores, and Amila Bucur added 13, for UALR who fell to 19-5 and 8-3 in Sun Belt conference play.

**WHAT SURPRISES DOES THE GREAT PUMPKIN HAVE IN STORE?**

Trick: Whoever seriously thinks this is possible may also overdose on Snickers and Reeses on Halloween. Remember when the Jets made the playoffs when Eric Mangini took over as head coach? Everyone thought they were on the right track and then bam, they landed flat on their face and got a reality check. No offense is more effective than a real shock.

Dolphins need to remember that they could be in for a rude awakening next season if they start having dreams of Goebbels for a AFC Championship next season. This team is still a ways away from making any major conference changes.

Trick or treat? Will the Dolphins win the AFC East?

Trick or treat: What surprises does the Great Pumpkin have in store?