The legend of freshman phenom: T.Y.

For about a split second there, the man they call “Goody” almost looked mortal.

With two and a half minutes remaining in last Saturday’s Homecoming game against Arkansas State, T.Y. Hilton did the unthinkable for FIU fans; he messed up.

On a reverse, T.Y. dropped quarterback Paul McCall’s handoff, a potentially disastrous scenario for a team looking for a score. Of course once the ball popped out, neither McCall nor Hilton panicked. The reason: it’s T.Y.

“Instead of going for the fumble recovery, I just said ‘Let T.Y. take care of it,’” McCall said.

Once the ball hit the ground, T.Y. kicked it up to himself, scrambled back to the other side of the field, and heaved up a prayer to Junior Mertile that seemed to take an eternity to fall. When the ball finally settled into Mertile’s hands, the stands erupted with the biggest celebration yet in the young stadium.

HEROIC PERFORMANCE

While he’s not quite wearing spandex and a cape out there, T.Y. is the closest thing to a hero this team’s ever seen. If you haven’t been following the Golden Panthers until now, it is only because the Wolves did everything in their power to keep the ball out of his hands, going so far as Paul McCall’s handoff, which floated out, neither McCall nor Hilton panicked. The reason: it’s T.Y.

If that number seems low for the nation’s leader in all purpose yards, it is only because the man with the 4 on his jersey.

T.Y.’s performance in this game has to be considered one of the single greatest performances an FIU player has ever had, and was certainly the deciding factor in the winning touchdown pass with 2:04 left on the clock. For full story, turn to page 8

Float parade showcases creativity

Crowds cheering, cars honking, and DJs blasting an array of music from all the different kinds of floats. This was the scene on Nov. 7 during the Homecoming parade, one of the most anticipated events.

At 6 p.m. police cars flooded the streets of the university, blocking the school’s rotunda to create route and free space for a massive parade, in which floats built by different Greek organizations were showcased to a large crowd.

Fraternities and sororities were allowed to work together in groups in order to built the time floats.

Convertible cars donated by The Collection were the highlight of the parade. They carried former and upcoming King and Queen nominees, as well as Dori-Ann Fernandez, the overall director of Homecoming.

As the parade moved around the University, sororities and fraternities ran endlessly to the different checkpoints cheering on their respective floats.

Each sorority and fraternity wore different Homecoming shirts to distinguish the different organizations that took part in the building of each float.

The floats seemed to leave a lasting impression on the people in attendance, in particular, “Roary in Wonderland” by Alpha Omicron Pi and Phi Gamma Delta.

Obama’s plans dissected by former governor

Just days after Barack Obama made history by becoming the first African-American president, former Sen. Bob Graham presented students a preview of how Obama plans to tackle the key issues facing America today.

In his lecture, Graham discussed the significance of the 2008 presidential election, and Obama’s election to the presidency. He said that this election had “redrawn the electoral map,” creating more battleground states.

“There were at least 15 or more competitive states,” said Graham. “This made for more areas in which both candidates had to spend a lot of time campaigning in.”

He continued to say that this year’s election broke through barriers and proved that America is truly a country where people of all races can obtain the opportunities they seek.

Graham also discussed Obama’s plans for the economy and national security.

According to Graham, Obama plans to “put money in the hands of the people who are most likely to spend it, in order to help boost the economy. He also suggests that during Obama’s term, there may be more government regulations in the financial markets and a greater emphasis on energy programs.”
Bob Graham talks politics post election

GRAHAM, page 1

on decreasing America’s dependence on foreign oil. For national security, Graham told students the number one threat to America is weapons of mass destruction in the hands of terrorists. During Obama’s presidency, he plans to remove all the troops out of Iraq, but keep 25,000 troops in Afghanistan. “America needs to rebuild relationships with the rest of the world,” Graham said. He congratulated all students who voted and recognized the one who was standing in the voting line with him. “You can be a player and use your political power every day to make your life easier,” said Graham. “If students are passive, then nothing will ever get done.”

After the lecture, Graham answered some questions from the audience. “Usually when someone asks a politician a question, they beat around the bush and don’t really answer the question,” said Dino Atkovic, a student majoring in international relations. “He did a great job, because he answered the questions very honestly.”

Even some students who did not vote for Obama attended the lecture. “I agree with his views on Barack Obama,” said Linda Lee, a student majoring in business management. “I did not vote for Obama, but after what I heard today, I understand a little more about Obama’s views.” The Honors College inducted Sen. Graham as an honorary member of the Honors College at the end of the lecture.

In 1978, Graham was elected Governor of Florida, and in 1986 to the U.S. Senate, where he served three terms and in 2004 wrote the book “Intelligence Matters.” He retired from public office in 2005, and spent the 2005-2006 academic year at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government.

PARADE, page 1

(also known as ‘FIJI’). While being built, the float had tiny tissue paper decorated around its surface. “That float definitely won number one,” said sophomore Julie Osheross. A fetter the parade, while the cars were being piled up to be taken back to the dealer, a massive celebration, aptly titled ‘FIU Ultra’ had students changing into the Blue and Gold Panther garages, where students and staff both celebrated the end of the parade with a variety of music provided by renowned DJ’s such as DJ Kenow and DJ Irie. The event lasted from 8 p.m. until 1:15 a.m. in the morning, with glow paint provided by the Homecoming Committee, which was thrown by students to everyone at the party. Although the partying might be over, with students having to wait another year, lasting memories of their 2008 Homecoming week were made. “This was probably the best party I’ve ever been to,” said Michelle Corber, a freshman studying business management. “I did not vote for Obama, but after what I heard today, I understand a little more about Obama’s views.”}

Day one and your world matters

Day one. It’s not just about work. It’s about the chance to make a difference to the wider community, to connect with a diverse range of people and places around the world. Bring your passion and interests and we’ll help find a way for you to contribute to the things that matter to you. From your very first day, we’re committed to helping you achieve your potential. So, whether your career lies in assurance, tax, transaction or advisory services, shouldn’t your day one be at Ernst & Young?

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The Beacon – November 10, 2008

NEWS

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POLICE NOTES

Oct 31 - Nov 4:

• Oct. 31: Student William Zamora parked and locked his vehicle in the Red Garage, on the fifth level between 11.07 a.m. to 6:22 p.m. Returning to his vehicle, he saw that unknown suspect(s) had popped the driver’s side door, stealing his sunglasses.

• Nov. 3: A student stated that after securing his bicycle at the bicycle rack located in front of the University Park Towers, he returned it several hours later to discover his bicycle had been taken by unknown suspect(s).

• Nov 4: A student stated that she parked and secured her bicycle at the bicycle rack at the Graham Center south side bicycle racks, and then went to class. Upon returning, she discovered that unknown suspect(s) had taken her bicycle. A student reported to Public Safety that his/her parking decal had been stolen from his/her vehicle two days earlier. No suspect(s) at this time.

-Compiled by David A. Barrios
SGC resolutions address lack of student parking

Barbara Quijano
Staff Writer

Student complaints regarding insufficient parking spaces at the Biscayne Bay Campus have been heard. A solution to the faculty parking spaces left unoccupied throughout the day was presented at the Student Government Council-BBC general meeting on Nov.5.

“Students have complained to me that it takes them a long time to get to their classes, so we want to implement more parking spaces so that students can get to class in a timely fashion,” said Sholom Neistien, speaker of the senate for SGC-BBC.

Any resolutions, council bills or appropriations presented to SGC requiring a vote must have two representatives as sponsors before being placed on a meeting’s agenda. This excludes a bill proposed by the president in which case it must have one representative as a sponsor, according to Vera.

For a resolution to be approved by administration, three resolutions will have passed this year, with the first addressing the voucher system for football games.

Panther Power seeks SGA approval as standing council

Barbara Quijano
Staff Writer

Pep rallies, as well as pajama and tailgate parties, are some of the events Panther Power has offered students at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

The Panther Power cabinet is striving to become a standing council to gain active members and more respect, according to Natalie Vera, Panther Power director.

“Panther Power is a spirit organization that has to do with Athletics. [We’re] trying to move forward and be more involved and participate on campus, as well as at games, putting on events prior to games to increase the hype,” said Vera, a junior majoring in criminology.

Currently, the cabinet director is the only member who receives a salary.

As a standing council, all members of the cabinet would be paid.

The council would then be funded by the Student Government Association.

Panther Power would have to let SGA and advisers know about their plans and events, but the council would still make final decisions for the group.

“Panther Power is kind of already treated as a standing council,” said Kenasha Paul, vice president of SGC-CCC. “The only difference would be that [vice president], treasurer and secretary would be eligible to get paid. The money would come out of our SGA funds, and it wouldn’t be that much.”

The amount of money allocated to Panther Power, if it becomes a standing council, would depend on how much the budget is next year.

Panther Rage, based at University Park, is similar to BBC’s Panther Power. Both organizations are trying to come up with some kind of collaboration to make it a unified name, according to Vera.

“I would still like to have it as a standing council so that maybe in the following years, whoever is the president or director can go ahead and move on from there,” Vera said.

“If we can come to a common ground, all logistics are there. It’s very feasible for them to become a standing council,” Paul said.

A resolution sponsored by two senators would have to pass in order for Panther Power to be a standing council.

Paul, Neistien and Laura Torres, lower division senator, offered to sponsor and help Vera write the resolution.

“We’re cool with it,” Paul said. “That was something I wanted to work on as well.”

Panther Power has been active for seven years and currently has more than 100 members.

“We are growing intensely; [the] growth is unbelievable from last year to this year. We want students to have fun and enjoy themselves in all of our events,” said Vera.

“I am a little worried that if I don’t do this now, it will be pushed back. So it’s just basically moving forward after I leave.”

Homecoming showdown

School spirit: As part of a week of events celebrating Homecoming, students competed in a water balloon toss outside the Wolfe University Center on Nov. 6. At a pep rally organized by Panther Power, the Panther Rage, based at University Park, is similar to BBC’s Panther Power. Both organizations are trying to come up with some kind of collaboration to make it a unified name, according to Vera.

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“I am a little worried that if I don’t do this now, it will be pushed back. So it’s just basically moving forward after I leave.”
Homecoming week featured many activities to get students excited for the final home football game versus Arkansas State University.

On Nov. 3, a lip syncing contest was held at FIU Arena. Students performed in front of hundreds of their peers interpreting the night’s theme, “Reel Out the Spirit” (4,7). Panther Prowl was on Nov. 4, and comedians Craig Robinson, DJ Efren, Ralphie May and Tony Rock performed (2).

The Homecoming Parade was held between the Blue and Gold Garages on Nov. 7 at 6 p.m. Several student organizations created floats to parade around the roundabout (3,8). FIU Ultra, an outdoor foam and paint party, also took place on Nov. 7 at 8 p.m., between the Blue and Gold Garages (1,5,6).

The Golden Panthers went on to defeat Arkansas State 22-21 in Saturday’s game. Photo galleries for these events may be found at fiusm.com/galleries.
University outlines expected behavior at sporting events; rules not hard to abide

With FIU’s rapid growth has come new buildings, traditions and issues our young university has never had to deal with before. This is especially clear with Athletics, more specifically, the football program.

This year alone, The Beacon has reported several incidents that have occurred at home football games such as 47 students being charged with underage drinking, students making offensive chants to a University of South Florida football player while he laid motionless on the ground after injuring himself and students rushing the field after a win over Middle Tennessee.

With the new FIU Golden Panthers Pledge of Honor, Fan Code of Conduct, the University has rightfully taken a steadfast approach to try to educate the student body about what behavior is acceptable at FIU sporting events. The Fan Code of Conduct states that the following behavior will not be tolerated:

• Threatening, abusive or disruptive behavior
• Standings in aisles, ports or concourses
• Entering the field of play (during or after the game), unless properly accredited or accompanied by an authorized staff member
• Profane or abusive language
• Smoking, except where permitted (NE and SW designated grizzly corner of the stadium)
• Throwing objects in stands including paper or plastic cups or bottles
• Fighting
• Possession of alcohol inside the stadium except in designated areas (Stadium Club or Suites)

Failure to comply with law enforcement officials or stadium staff

• Public intoxication
• These rules are reasonable and will allow students and fans to enjoy the college sporting experience. The Beacon strongly recommends for students and faculty to familiarize themselves with these rules.

Being a young university, we have yet to deal with these issues. Although the University has had sports programs since the 60s, the football program was first launched in 2002 and is finally beginning to establish a winning tradition that is generating interest among students and alumni.

The Fan Code of Conduct will set the foundation for fans of FIU sports to understand and expect that any behavior of or that can eliminate any ambiguity of what is or is not allowed.

The University and Athletics have done their part to educate students about what proper behavior is expected at a FIU sporting event. Most of it is pretty much common sense anyway.

• Preventing, abusive or disruptive behavior
• Standing in aisles, ports or concourses
• Entering the field of play (during or after the game), unless properly accredited or accompanied by an authorized staff member
• Profane or abusive language
• Smoking, except where permitted (NE and SW designated grizzly corner of the stadium)
• Throwing objects in stands including paper or plastic cups or bottles
• Fighting
• Possession of alcohol inside the stadium except in designated areas (Stadium Club or Suites)

The truth about MP3 players revealed

Kimberly Englehardt
Contributing Writer

Can you hear me now? said, can you hear me now? No, this isn’t another Verizon Wireless commercial. This is a public service announcement from your very own ears. Hearing loss no longer applies to only the old people. It applies to us as well, more than ever before.

Before you block me out with your snazzy iPod or tune up your radio at full blast, listen to me … hear me out … while you still can! I don’t want my warnings to fall on deaf ears.

But, let’s get down to business. Please lower the volume of your music player. Believe me, it would be times that his happened to me.

One time, I sat next to this guy who had his iPod so loud I could decipher the song he was listening to. Although I got free listening time sitting next to him, I couldn’t help but lament his future.

Users listening at high volumes for more than an hour a day each week risk permanent hearing loss after five years.

The University of South Florida.

I wish you to lower the volume of your music player.

To my ears, it would be…

The FIU Golden Panthers Pledge of Honor, Fan Code of Conduct is posted outside of the student entrance and clearly visible for fans who are entering the FIU Football Stadium. At First Year Experience classes, professors are making sure students are learning about this policy.

With that being said, pleading ignorance is no acceptable excuse if any fan is caught breaking any of these rules, because again, they are pretty much common sense.

The University has done its part to try to educate fans about this policy, now it’s up to fans to hold up their part of the bargain.

What do you think?

Reading, understanding the rules and obeying them.

KEVIN RILEY
Contributing Writer

d to a close, we wanted to applaud the efforts of the FIU Students for McCain group; the odds were against you, but you gave it all you had on campus. We might have had our differences, but in end, I hope we can come together as Americans and unite as we always have, as we always will.

In the midst of the current economic climate and at high volume levels during several years, they run the risk of developing hearing loss by the time they reach their mid-twenties.

Don’t know about you, but I’m seriously recording how much time I’m spending with my MP3 player.

Further, there are many reports of temporary or persistent tinnitus induced by loud music. According to sta.org, tinnitus is “the perception of sound in the ears or head where no external source is present.” In layman’s terms, some people describe it as “ringing in the ears” or “head noise.” You probably had that sensation before you leave a very loud club. The annoyances usually goes away.

However, prolonged exposure to loud music can lead to permanent hearing loss.

The truth about MP3 players revealed

Each day after listening to loud music for many years, you’ll remember me. Only then you’d wish you could “hear” me when I asked you to lower the volume of your music device.

Remember, you might “hear” today, but it might be gone tomorrow!
Rivist makes 5 FGs, sets kicking record

FOOTBALL, page 8

down pass from Corey Leonard, and answer, and that made the score 14-9, in favor of Arkansas St. Dustin Rivest added his fourth field goal to close the third quarter with a 14-12 score. A Arkansas St. opened the final frame with a 12-yard scoring run from Derek Lawson. Rivest added his fifth field goal, and the score stood at 21-12 with 11:28 remaining. After a four-yard Brett Shankle punt, FiU found itself starting a drive at the Arkansas St. 42 yard line. On the first down, McCall completed a pass to tight end Eric Kirchenberg for 28 yards, but FiU would not be able to sustain the momentum, and would settle for a field goal, which Rivest missed from 27 yards. FiU’s defense forced a three-and-out, and the next Shankle punt was fielded by Hilton, who leads the country in total yards per game, with an average of 198.7, and returned 27 yards, to the Arkansas St. 35 yard line.

The following play will go down in the FiU annals, being mentioned among the greatest in school history. On the first down, Paul McCall attempted to hand the ball off to T.Y. Hilton who was motioning from the left of the shotgun formation. The exchange was sloppy, and they fumbled, and as Hilton booted the ball backward, and eventually picked it up, McCall threw, what would prove to be the block that allowed Hilton to make the play. The freshman receiver scooped up the ball and sprinted back to his left, and threw a wobbly pass to a wide open Junior Mertile in the end zone, to give FiU its winning margin, after adding the point after touchdown. When I recovered the fumble and saw Junior wide open, all I thought was “I’ve got to get him the ball!” When Junior caught it and I heard the crowd go crazy, I started going crazy too.” said Hilton, who is just 93 yards shy of tying Cory McKinney’s single season high of 890, set in 2002.

FiU will have a week off before hosting Louisiana-Monroe on Nov. 22. Coach Cristobal assures doubts of a letdown after the break. “Our focus has turned to winning every day, as opposed to winning the whole thing.”

MOVING UP THE CHARTS: Through just eight career games played, T.Y. Hilton already ranks fifth on the FiU career receiving yardage list.

BOX SCORE

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PASSING — FiU: McCall 15-33-321-0, Hilton 1-1-38-0. ASU: Leonard 13-26-149-1

The Golden Panthers get back in the win column, squeaking out a 22-21 victory over Arkansas State on Nov. 10 at FIU Stadium.

"Most importantly today, we learned how to fight through adversity, something hat we had not been able to do before," said head coach Mike Cristobal, about his team's (4-5, 3-2 Sun Belt Conference) performance in their first, and only, exhibition game of the season.

The Golden Panthers shot 26.9 percent in their first college minutes, others made six catches for a school record 199 yards. Reserve tight end caught an 18-yard touch-down pass from Paul McCall to standout receiver T.Y. Hilton. Hilton finished the game with six catches to score.

Although FIU held a 16-15 lead with only five minutes to play in the first half, Barry closed on a 15-3 run to take a 30-19 lead into halftime.

The Golden Panthers shot 26.9 percent in their first college minutes, others made six catches for a school record 199 yards. Reserve tight end caught an 18-yard touch-down pass from Paul McCall to standout receiver T.Y. Hilton. Hilton finished the game with six catches to score.

The first two kicks came in the second quarter, and opening the scoring for the contest, with the latter coming with 12:22 remaining, and the former, with 4:33 to go in the half. Both teams moved the ball well in the first half, piling up 400 yards combined, in total offense. FIU countered these field goals with excellent defensive plays to pull out win in their first regular season contest.

The Phoenix's (7-for-26) in the first half.

Women's basketball drops one and only exhibition game