Revised U.S. Sugar buyout to cost $400 million less

Gov. Charlie Crist announced a revised plan for a historic Everglades restoration deal on Nov. 12.

The new plan comes on the eve of the 61st anniversary of President Harry Truman’s dedication of the Everglades National Park in December 1947.

“I am enormously proud to be able to follow in such great footsteps,” Crist said.

Although relieved about the potential passage of the new plan, many students think it’s about time something is getting done.

“I’m glad they’ve done something,” said Laura Jimenez, a sophomore, in the annual Architecture department’s Walk on Water contest on Nov. 12 with her model that her teammate, Anamika Marynsingh built with her.

The University received $12.7 million for construction and renovation projects at University Park and Biscayne Bay Campus, according to the Board of Governors.

For each credit hour enrolled, a student pays $2.44 for the CITF fee and $2.32 for a building fee.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, the University requested $17.7 million for projects that include expansions and renovations at UP and BHC but only received $12,703,456.

The fees are used for construction of new buildings and renovations projects throughout the University.

According to Chris Kinsley, director of Finance and Facilities in the Board of Governors, the two fees are “effectively one program” that is set in state law for all state universities.

For Vögel, money shouldn’t be an issue in Everglades restoration projects and thinks the plan can’t come soon enough.

According to the rules on the application, no campaigning could be done on the Internet through MySpace, Facebook or e-mail servers. Violations of this rule would result in automatic disqualification.

“The most disheartening part of last week was learning people were cheating during the philanthropy portion of the court race,” Rachel Olmedo, Queen candidate Homecoming Court.

“I believe that it’s unfortunate that the Homecoming Court had to be cancelled, however, because the Homecoming Council made the right decision because it was the only way to prevent the chaos from continuing,” said Ivan Martinez, who was running for Homecoming King and Queen candidate Homecoming Court.

The deal is expected to be approved next month by the South Florida Water Management District and U.S. Sugar. But the earliest date available to take possession of any land is Dec. 2009, according to U.S. Sugar Vice President Robert Coker.

Crist did not set a number of the total acres that will eventually go to conservation. Some will likely be retained for farming.

Additional reporting by Danielle Bacigalupi.
Royal hopefuls disqualified after using the Web for campaigning

HOMECOMING, page 1

King for UP—“Hopefully next year everyone will conduct themselves in a better manner and we can get back to the real reason for Homecoming, which is supporting FIU,” Rachel Olmedo, who was running for Homecoming Queen at UP, felt the same way, stating that she was in agreement with the Council’s decision.

“The most disheartening part of last week was learning that people were cheating for the philanthropy portion of the court race,” Olmedo said. “By then a serious line had been crossed. I was shocked to see how low people would go in order to win.”

The Homecoming voting was cancelled to stop the “angst and frustration” many students felt because of the cheating, according to Director of Campus Life Eric A. Arneson.

“Several members of the court actually dropped out and withdrew their names from the competition,” Arneson said. “So the Homecoming committee decided that there was too much animosity between different student organization.

nizations and groups.”

Many students were shocked about what happened.

“Frankly, I’ve never seen anything like it,” Kovachy said.

Kovachy went on to say that expectations for campaigning would most likely have to be adjusted, feeling that the election process should be more consistent, like Student Government’s election process.

People wishing to participate in Homecoming Court were required to complete an application, have a minimum 2.74 GPA and be a full-time student.

Candidates also had to attend several Homecoming Week events like Lip-Sync, the Box Tops for Education drive and the Homecoming football game and parade.

Biscayne Bay Campus Homecoming Court elections went smoothly. Natalie Vera, director of Panther Prowl, and G.C. Murray were named Queen and King.

Next year, students hope the UP Homecoming Court will replicate BCC’s elections.

“We need to hold our community to a higher standard,” Olmedo said. “That’s exactly the message I believe the Homecoming Council is sending by cancelling Homecoming Court this year.”

BOG to discuss increase in tuition

The BOG will discuss the increase in tuition fees, which will be considered at the BOG meeting on Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Stempel Public Health Association member Nancy Madique is presenting the FIU Organic Farmer’s Market, set to kick off on Dec. 3 between the central fountain and the Green Library.

The Organic Farmer’s Market’s purpose is to educate the community to improve their eating behavior for a healthier option, said SPFHA President Jesus Medina in an e-mail to The Beacon.

Also, it will support the local farmers for a constant production of organic vegetables and fruits to prevent diseases related to pesticides.

The market will be open to all the Miami-Dade County community.

United Way auction hoping to raise funds

The 2008 United Way auction will be held on Nov. 21 at the Marc Pavilion. The auction runs from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., but the live auction begins at 6:30 p.m.

Students can purchase tickets at MARC 430, CSC 350, Graham Center main office or Health Services Building II room 464 for $5, cash only.

All proceeds benefit the FIU-United Way 2008 campaign, according to an e-mail sent to The Beacon by the office of University and Community Relations.

University names new Art Museum director

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum has recently named Carol Damin as its new director and chief curator.

Damin, a professor and curator of the Frost Museum since 2006, has been interim director since April.

The massive new building, which will house the museum’s permanent collection of 6,000 works, opens on Nov. 29 and includes five exhibitions with artwork not only from its permanent collection but also the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

The center has grown a great deal from a simple art collection to a new massive 46,000 square foot complex.

Honor society holds raffle for ‘Twilight’ movie

The University chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society, is raffling away two tickets for the midnight showing of the soon to be released hit movie “Twilight.”

The club will be tabling in the Graham Center on November 10, 12-14 and 17-18. The club will be raffling away tickets for the midnight showing in Kendall Village Mall on Thursday, Nov. 20 and Fri Nov. 21. For more information, contact Annette Estrada at aestr004@fiu.edu

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The BOG meeting will be held at the Graham Center, room 210, at the University Park campus. Questions regarding display advertising and billing should be directed to the Advertising Manager at 305-348-6994. Mailing address: Graham Center, room 210, Miami, FL 33199. Fax number is 305-348-7212. Biscayne Bay Campus is 305-919-4722. Office hours are 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. E-mail: beacon09@fiu.edu. Visit us online at www.fiu.edu
Tournament lets students unleash inner rock stars

HERO" tour-
in the "Guitar
hand-eye coor-
dination
have the chance to showcase their
"Hero," and students will now
orange in the video game "Guitar
with green, red, yellow, blue and
other notes have been replaced
November 14, 2008

Ideal spots for after-work blues complete with food, music

W hen I worked at Starbucks, my co-workers and I had a tradi-
tion of going to a sports bar to un-
wind after work. Some nights we
would just sit in front of the store
and relax with a cup of iced tea; anything to for-
get about the array of an-
noying customers that
came into the store.

Now that I work at Victoria's Secret, my
co-workers and I don't have any clock-out tradi-
tions, and I honestly miss it, but that doesn't mean
that I cannot recruit my friends to unwind with me.

For those who want to get their
energy back after work, head over to Paquito's Mexican restaurant,
(16265 Biscayne Blvd.) This is a great place to unwind on a
Saturday night.

The day I went, I had just fin-
ish ed a five-hour shift. My feet
were killing me, and the last
thing I wanted to do was to go out
anywhere. But within seconds
walking into this restaurant, I got
my energy back. It may sound odd, but stepping
into Paquito's transports
you to Mexico.

The walls and the dec-
orations are colorful, and the
servers are dressed in
traditional Mexican at-
tire. Our server had on a
light blue skirt, a white
tie. Our server had on a

Sure the setting woke me up, but it was the
music that helped me escape the
stress of a long day of work. I
don't speak a word of Spanish, but
the sounds of the band s drained
all of the tiredness out of me.

The live band plays in the bar
area, which is only for patrons
21 and over. If you're not of age,

located in WUC 160. As of Nov.
10, 15 people have signed up, but
students can still register on the
day of the tournament.

"I play 'Guitar Hero' with my
cousins sometimes, so I feel it
would be fun to play with people
my age," said Natalie Vera, a se-
nior majoring in criminal jus-
tice who already registered for
the tournament. "I can only play
one game, easy, but, we'll see what
happens."

Aside from the tournament, "Marios Karn!" and "Dance Dance
Revolution" will be available for

free play.

Free pizza and drinks will also
be served to participants.

"I think it will be a good turn-
out just because a lot of people
like to play 'Guitar Hero,'" said
Andrea Reynoso, a sophomore
majoring in physical therapy. "It
helps them get their minds off
school."

The BBC Recreation Center has
an Xbox, Xbox 360, PlayStation
2, PlayStation 3 and Wii for stu-
dents to use, according to Torres. Available for all students, they
are priced at $5 an hour and $8

for two hours per person using
the system, which can be used in
the aerobics room whenever the
gym is open.

The winner of the tournament
will get two free hours of any
game on the system of his
or her choice.

"Beware other 'Guitar Hero'
players. I'm going to beat every-
one," Vera said.

For more information about
the "Guitar Hero" tournament
and FOR registration information
visit WUC room 160 or call (305)
919-5678.
Dead bunnies cause literary uproar

JASMYN ELLIOT Contributing Writer

Can suicide be funny? The answer is no if you were to ask Taffey Anderson, a mother living in Halsey, Ore. According to an Oct. 20 Seattle Post-Intelligencer article, when her 13-year-old son brought home a copy of the comic book “The Bunny Suicides” from his school library, she forbade him to return it under the premise that she didn’t want any more children exposed to its content. As of now, the book has been returned and she is taking legal measures to have it banned from the library.

The book is a popular set of drawings showing a rabbit attempting suicide in peculiar and dark ways such as ironing itself, jumping through plane turbines and playing tether ball with a hand grenade.

The author, Andy Riley, started the series in 2003 as he was prompted by friends who said that these drawings were funny -- to them, at least.

The book is meant to be taken as a harmless joke. However, Anderson claims the book could influence young children to act out the depictions in the book, thus causing serious injury to themselves.

Anderson may have a point in asking for the book’s removal.

Several libraries in the U.S. have already pulled it from their shelves. Furthermore, a book salesman in Shanghai removed the book after he learned that several children attempted suicide through its influence. At least one child died.

There is no doubt that children are impressionable, and that media violence has at least some effect on them.

In 1963, psychologist Albert Bandura conducted a landmark laboratory experiment that divided four groups of 100 pre-school-aged children and showed them varying degrees of violence taken out upon a doll. When the children were exposed to that same doll, the three experimental groups acted with hostility toward it while the control group, which was not exposed to any imagery, didn’t display any violent behavior.

Additionally, a study in 2003 done by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that 47 percent of children between the ages of four and six displayed violent behavior after watching violence displayed in cartoons.

Teenagers are also influenced by violence. In 2002, Jeffrey Johnson of Columbia University conducted an experiment that pointed out that teens between the ages of 14 and 16 who watched one to three hours of violent TV on a daily basis would be 60 percent more prone to assault others than those who watched less or not at all.

By connecting these studies with the issue at hand, this ultimately proves the book will cause all children who read it to commit suicide.

Although we cannot say that “The Bunny Suicides” has produced a pandemic of mass suicides, one thing is clear: despite the odd methods of self-injury, it did cause a few children to act irrationally.

Perhaps Anderson was wrong in removing the book vigilante style, but she did so because she realized the effect it could have on not only her son, but on other children who read it.

Getting a book removed from the library is one of those things that conjures images of a Bratwy-sque or Orwellian era state of censorship, but just perhaps there are certain materials that should be kept out of the hands of easy public reach, for safety’s sake.
The University community will once again come together for a charitable cause on Nov. 15, at the FIU Stadium for a flag football tournament.

The event will be hosted by the Student Government Association and will kick off at 9 a.m. This sporting event will be unlike others because the proceeds generated from the tournament will go to the United Way and all 139 programs it benefits.

The United Way concentrates its efforts on aiding underprivileged children and youth throughout the community by promoting financial stability, independence and health. Its goal is to gear youth in the right direction while providing the foundation for a successful life.

When addressing the underlying problems that occur everyday, the organization works to incorporate everyone in the community.

“I think FIU’s work with the United Way is important because it allows [students] an opportunity to work with a philanthropy,” said Valeska Rodriguez, a freshman business major. “By going to an event like the flag football tournament, I can have a good time with my friends while knowing I am making a difference in someone’s life.”

Through incorporating government officials, large business corporations, nonprofit organizations and ordinary citizens, advancing the common good is all in a day’s work for the United Way, which counts major National Corporate Leadership Companies such as Target, Allstate, Bank of America and Eastman Kodak Company among its sponsors.

The National Football League is also a sponsor, who has donating thousands of dollars and countless hours of community service as well.

“FIU’s affiliation with organizations such as the United Way is a winning situation for all,” said Natalia Santiago, a sophomore education major. “Since we are such a large institution, our students can definitely make a difference in the lives of others by simply participating in the upcoming flag football tournament.”

The tournament’s starting donation per seven-person team will be $40. Teams are encouraged, however, to donate as much as possible and be sponsored by businesses or corporations, if possible.

The games will be played with a seven-on-seven player setup, although each team is allowed to carry ten players. Standard intramural regulations will apply to the tournament with the exception of the size of the playing field and regulation timing.

Students are encouraged to bring friends from other schools to join a team but each team’s captain must be a FIU student currently enrolled in classes.

“Being able to bring people from outside the University was a good idea. This could have been a deterrent to some people and, in the end, the more people helping this cause, the better,” said Billy Gil, senior accounting major.

In addition, all players must sign a liability form and the team’s captain must assume all responsibility for his or her teammates.

Golden Panthers are encouraged to participate in any way possible either as players or as spectators.

“The United Way is a fantastic organization and giving a little bit of our pocket change will go a very long way for a lot of people who are not as fortunate as us,” says Helena Ramírez, Student Outreach director and member of the United Way Steering Committee.

“The FIU community will pull through and make this a great event like we always do,” says Carmen Sardary, a freshman psychology major.

With large anticipated donations and Panther enthusiasm, the event is expected to culminate as one of the highlights of this semester’s charitable events, making it a great way for FIU students to do their part for those in need while enjoying themselves.

Natalia Páez, a psychology major, says, “Events like these bring our school together and give us an opportunity to aid a worthwhile cause. There are too many problems in the world for our generation to sit back and wait for others to create change.”

For more information, visit UnitedWay.FIU.edu.
**MOVIE**

First-ever Bond sequel pays homage to its predecessors

STEVE MESA  
**Staff Writer**

His name is Bond. James Bond. As the sixth actor to fill the shoes of agent 007, Daniel Craig returns in his second outing as Bond in "Quantum of Solace".

As the first movie in the Bond franchise to become a direct sequel to accommodate its predecessor, "Quantum of Solace" picks up where "Casino Royale" left off.

The film opens with Bond being chased by a couple of thugs in a car chase that seems reminiscent of the car chases from the "Bourne" franchise.

After quickly dispatching them, it is revealed that he has Mr. White (Jesper Christensen), the man responsible for the death of Bond's love, in the trunk of the car.

During a confrontation with Bond's boss, M (Judi Dench), she says to Bond, "I think you're so blinded by inconsolable rage that you don't care who it hurts."

He does balance himself between the fine line of duty and revenge, sometimes being pushed to the latter.

The action scenes from "Quantum of Solace" can be easily compared to those from the Jason Bourne movies. There is a rooftop chase sequence that seems like it was ripped off from the other rooftop chase sequence that took place in "The Bourne Ultimatum".

I respect this movie because it becomes a throwback to the previous Bond movies, such as "Goldfinger". The opening title sequence to "Quantum of Solace" pays tribute to earlier Bond films by featuring silhouettes of nude women.

The organization that Bond is seeking information about in this film is known as QUANTUM. This becomes a throwback to SPECTRE, the organization that became responsible for villains like Dr. No, Rosa Klebb, Red Grant, Ernst Stavro Blofeld.

Last, but not least, the dead body of a beautiful woman is found in Bond's hotel covered in oil, a reference to a similar discovery in "Goldfinger", in which both bodies were found in similar locations and positions.

"Quantum of Solace" has everything a fan of Bond can want in a Bond film: great action, an amazing performance from Daniel Craig and many direct homages to the earlier Bond films.

I think what really makes his performance significant in this movie is that he plays Bond not just as a rugged man who gets his hands dirty, but as a man who lost the love of his life due to tragic circumstances.

There are certain events throughout the movie that make every relationship Bond has a metaphorical virus, everything he touches dies. Bond's vulnerability becomes his main weakness.

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"Quantum of Solace" has everything a fan of Bond can want in a Bond film: great action, an amazing performance from Daniel Craig and many direct homages to the earlier Bond films.

Hey you,  
Yay. You. Read these, and welcome back “My Cousin Tony” and his cousin with the weird accent. Then laugh. That’s right. You know you want to.

—Jonathan Davila, Life! Editor
Loss prevents tournament hopes

JONATHAN ALPERT
Asst. Sports Director

It was a disquieting Senior Day for the FIU men’s soccer team, on Nov. 7 at the University Park campus, as they took on the Southern Methodist University Mustangs.

The Golden Panthers needed a tie or win to shape a happy ending in their last regular season and home game, and qualify for the conference tournament.

The team was hoping to kick off another late season Cinderella story similar to last year’s when they beat then ranked No. 5 SMU in the first round of their C-USA tournament.

However, Golden Panthers’ senior duo, Corey Kendall and Phil Fisher, had their hopes of appearing in a final college tournament shattered in the 2-1 loss.

“We want to go out, especially after last nament shattered in the grueling 2-1 loss. USA tournament.”

opened the season against Barry to last year’s when they beat then ranked regular season and home game, and qualify for the conference tournament.

Mustangs.

Returning leading scorer Monika the FIU men’s soccer team, on Nov. 7 at able to work together better and score coming in,” said Gonzalez, “But as goal attempts in the first half.

Michelle Gonzalez recorded five turn-der head coach Bill Sullivan, created Golden Panthers.

7-0 lead into halftime.

half with a 15-3 run to take a 30-19 fi rst half, Barry closed the opening fi rst half by SMU senior Jeff Harwell.

“It is hard as a new point guard that would turn out quite detrimental for a

and Steven Jabar Cabais to the red, and an intense, heated ambiance throughout four on FIU and two red cards, one called on the home team, which created quite an intense, heated ambiance throughout the match. FIU would lose Dame Smith and Steven Jabar Cabais to the red, and that would turn out quite detrimental for a

Although FIU was able to work together better and score more than she did tonight,”</p>

Womens basketball drop exhibition

JONATHAN ALPERT
Asst. Sports Director

The women's basketball team opened the season against Barry University on Nov. 5 at the FIU Arena. It was the first and only exhibition game of the season for the Golden Panthers.

The Division II Buccaneers, under head coach Bill Sullivan, created enough offensive and defensive plays to pull out a 54-40 win.

The Golden Panthers were held to only 19 points in the first half. Returning leading scorer Monica Bisulj went 0-for-4 in field goal attemps and 0-for-3 from the 3-point line.

Lack of college experience by new players in the back court was evident. Sophomore transfer point guard Michelle Gonzalez recorded five turnovers and made only one of four field goal attempts in the first half.

“IT is hard as a new point guard coming in,” said Gonzalez. “But as the season goes on, we will all be able to work together better and score more points.”

Although FIU held a 16-15 lead with only five minutes to play in the first half, Barry closed the opening half with a 19-3 run to take a 30-16 lead into halftime. The Golden Panthers' goal field percentage in the first half was 26.9 percent (7-for-26).

The Bucs moved into the second half, continuing their run by scoring the first five points.

Leading the Bucs was Lucy Martinez, who led all scorers with 17 points. On the other side, junior forward Marquita Adley led FIU with 12 points.

The Golden Panthers trailed the Bucs 48-38 with less than three minutes in the game but second half steals prevented the Panthers from scoring and minimizing the Bucs’ lead.

Barry finished with 12 steals and forced the Golden Panthers to turn over 18 times.

While some new players looked polished in their first college minutes, others made mistakes that gave the Bucs more opportunities to score.

Freshman guard Asia Wilson, a

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Freshman guard Asia Wilson, a
The volleyball team beat Middle Tennessee for the first time in head coach Daniela Tomic’s coaching career to gain at least a share of the Sun Belt title on Nov. 7. FIU then fell to Western Kentucky in four sets on Nov. 9, and swept Florida Gulf Coast in Ft. Myers on Nov. 11 to complete a busy weekend.

Tomic had one of the best matches I’ve ever been a part of,” Tomic said of the thrilling five-set marathon win over MTSU, which guaranteed FIU at least a piece of the Sun Belt title.

The letdown on Sunday afternoon was apparent, as FIU came out flat and couldn’t outright clinch the SBC title, falling in four sets to third place Western Kentucky. “We didn’t play like we usually have to be prepared. We have to be prepared. We didn’t deserve to win, but WKU is a really easier team we might have won, but WKU is a really good team and we weren’t prepared,” Tomic said.

FIU couldn’t capitalize on an opportunity to win the regular season Sun Belt title outright and earn the number one seed in the conference tournament (November 20-22 FIU Arena), but would win another shot Saturday, November 15th at home against FAU at 7pm. “We couldn’t let the home crowd down, they were so loud and very supportive.”

WVK 3, FIU 1

For the first time in 11 home matches and 13 overall, FIU lost, falling to Western Kentucky in four sets on Sunday afternoon (25-19, 22-25, 25-15, 25-23).

FIU led early in the first 11-7, but WKU tied it and never looked back. WKU held the lead the rest of the set and took it 25-21.

The fourth set was a back and forth battle with six ties and four lead changes. FIU didn’t take its first lead of the set until 17-16. The Golden Panthers gained momentum as the match continued to culminate with setter Natalia Valentin and freshman Andrea Lakovic teaming up for a critical block to tie the set at 21.

FIU couldn’t close out MTSU, and the Blue Raiders walked away with a match that was a piece of a 25-23-23 sixth win.

FIU fell behind in the fifth and deciding set early 7-3. Both teams traded points and FIU trailed 10-5. With MTSU 5 points away from handing FIU its first loss at home matches and 13 overall, FIU lost, falling to Western Kentucky in four sets (25-22, 25-21, 25-23, 25-21).

In the second set, FIU took the lead 4-3. Rosa had 9 kills in the second set, taking it 25-15.

In the third set, MTSU jumped out to a 13-5 lead, but FIU fought back and tied the set 21. FIU won the set on a 4-1 run, 25-22.

In the second set, FIU jumped out to an early 5-2 lead, and continued to control the rest of the set, taking it 25-21. MTSU tied the set at 10, but FIU pulled away in the second set, which saw six ties and three lead changes.

Middle Tennessee jumped out to an early 2-0 lead over FIU in the third set and never relinquished it, taking the set 25-21.

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