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Students get the chance to preview new art museum

ELSIE PUIG 
Staff Writer

On Dec. 3, the new Frost Art Museum held a special event exclusively for University students. Sponsored by Target, museum visitors were greeted to the sounds of live DJ and a tent filled with free food such as pasta, hot dogs and hamburgers. Inside the museum, students were greeted with art, among them towels, pens and frisbees.

Abby Araya, a political science major and a Student Government Association intern, was not able to see the entire museum but commented on the museum’s organization. “The museum looks professional, it looks like a real museum,” said Araya. “I liked that they had variations in the type of art.”

Araya hopes to return in the near future for other events and have the chance to look at other works of art more thoroughly. However, some students felt that some aspects of the event were out of place in a cultural setting.

“The music was a little too much, it tried too hard to attract young people,” said Oscar Lombana-Sanchez, a freshman government major and docent, explained students who want to attend future events.

“We will be sending regular updates through the University e-mail to those who signed up at the event.” Ordonez said.

OPENING DAY

When the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum made its debut Nov. 29, the University Avenue of the Arts was blessed with its crown jewel.

Susan Stoller, member Frost Art Museum

“I’m really impressed with the space and the way the light can come in. The art can breathe, the [museum] gives it a life...”

Wendy Ordonez, an art education major and docent, explained that the museum would be notifying students who want to attend future events.

“The architecture is so avant-garde,” said Carlos Califz, an architect from Colombia, as he pointed to the wide walls that displayed the art.

“The architecture is so avant-garde,” said Carlos Califz, an architect from Colombia, as he pointed to the wide walls that displayed the art.

The Modern Masters collection seemed a unanimous favorite among those who attended. Victoria Mecklenberg, senior curator at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, who attended the grand opening, praised those behind the scenes.

“It is like the petals of the flower that all come together at the center,” said Mecklenberg. “It all seems so effortless, but we all know it was not.”

Mecklenberg remembers walking through the building with Patricia Frost when it was still under construction and thinking up new possibilities for the museum.

“It was a fabulous building, and though it would be great to do a show from our collection, it just seemed like the logical next step,” Mecklenberg said.

The Modern Masters collection exhibits pieces from abstract artists of the 1950s into three themes that trace the plot of a larger story in art history.

“This one has to be one of my favorites,” said General Counsel Henry Stoller pointing to Hans Hoffman’s “Afterglow.” “It just has so much color and vibrancy.”

Stoller occupied his time studying each art piece while he waited patiently for the 2 p.m. group tour to start, guided by Gaby Portela, a junior majoring in art history.

Portela started the tour by guiding the group through the Andrew Reuch exhibition, which drew immense interest from the guests.

The group then made its way through the second floor exhibiting the Modern Masters and permanent collections and through the third floor which displayed the emerging artist exhibitions of Luisa Basnuevo, Florencio Gelabert and John Henry.

A steady stream of people walked through the doors throughout the night, making it a successful debut.

“We never expected this much people to show up,” said Nicole Espinol, a sophomore majoring in art history.
College completion rates still low despite better preparedness

The educational strength of the American population is in the group that’s about to retire,” Callan said. “In the rest of the world it’s the group that’s gone to college since 1990.”

In Illinois, average cost of attending four-year college jumped from 19 percent to 35.

Pennsylvania jumped from 29 percent to 41.

Average increase cost of attending four-year college

• College completion rates still low despite better preparedness

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the group that’s about to retire,” Callan said. “In the rest of the world it’s the group that’s gone to college since 1990.”

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CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Dec. 1, 2008, the article titled “World Aids day: opportunity to raise awareness” spelled Aids as “A” not “AIDS.” The Beacon is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by Student Government.

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New environmental coordinator on board

PAMELA DUQUE
Asst. News Director

The Biscayne Bay Campus wants to protect its mangrove and coastal areas, and a new environmental coordinator has been hired to get the word out. “As much as there is a potential, it’s not going to happen without continuous engagement of students,” said Rebecca Dinar, outreach coordinator of the Office of the Vice Provost. “Our campus is the only campus in the country next to a mangrove, and we have a special responsibility to take care of it.”

Jennifer Grimm, a former City of Miami employee, is the new BBC environmental coordinator. She was hired to plan activities and conduct research for campus restoration projects. “Her job is to help students, faculty and staff become more environmentally aware and responsible,” Dinar said.

Grimm will work closely with the different schools based at BBC, and with SGC-BBC in order to reach students. “It’s an awesome opportunity to be able to work at this campus,” said Grimm. “It’s a great place to work and develop projects to help the environment.”

Prior to coming to the University, Grimm worked for the City of Miami Sustainable Initiative Office, which coordinates Miami’s environmental programs to make the city “a model for environmental best practices,” according to its official Web site. Although plans to start reaching students and implementing new ways to protect BBC’s mangroves and coastal areas have not been made yet, Grimm is “actively in a learning and listening mode,” according to Dinar.

“Our main goal is to involve students and to help them develop more awareness about the environment,” Craumer said.

In April 2007, the Office of the Vice Provost, with the help of the Coastal Initiative Committee, submitted a proposal to Jane’s Trust for an environmental studies initiative to educate students about coastal and marine related topics.

In May of this year, the Trust awarded a $140,000 two-year grant to the University, which pays for Craumer and Grimm’s salaries. Jane’s Trust was created in 2002, and it awards grants to programs that help “underprivileged communities,” according to its official Web site, including projects to “protect and enhance the natural environment and to conserve natural resources in its geographical areas of interest.” The Coastal Environmental Initiative Committee, which is composed of faculty members, proposed a Coastal and Marine Affairs Certificate, which would be multidisciplinary and involve different schools as a way of directly reaching students and educating them about the environment.

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, College of Architecture and Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, and the School of Journalism and Mass Communication have already been included in the curriculum, but according to Craumer, who is also the faculty coordinator, the Coastal Environmental Initiative Committee is “seeking broader participation.”

“We are privileged to be in this beautiful location. Students at BBC are environmentally engaged, and we want to couple the energy and enthusiasm of students with our geography to make BBC one of the top environmentally-friendly campuses in the country,” Dinar said.

Midnight Breakfast for late night study breaks

DOUGLAS FORTE
Contributing Writer

At the end of the semester, many students, like junior international relations major Kerry Ann Carby, who are studying late on campus, BBC Campus Life, Campus Recreation and Student Government Association will be providing a complementary breakfast during the end of the semester event, the Midnight Breakfast.

“Your food, your food, you’re happy for an hour and then go back to studying,” said Carby, who attended the event during the spring semester. “I am going again this year.”

The Midnight Breakfast will take place Dec. 8, in Panther Square from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m.

“Students can come over, take a little break from their studying and have some scrumptious breakfast,” said Joanne Oates, guard assistant at Campus Life and Orientation. “It’s a great opportunity to recollect their thoughts and relax.”

At the event, students are treated to an assortment of breakfast foods and drinks. All refreshments at the event will be provided by Aramark, the University’s food service provider.

“There’s so many different kinds of foods—eggs, bacon, sausage, waffles, toast, juice, bagels and the list goes on,” said junior Joe L. Mintz, a mathematics major, who attended the event during the spring term. “There’s something for everyone.”

In addition to breakfast, there will also be music, games, meditation sessions and Zumba classes, which are part of a dance aerobic program.

Giveaways, such as mugs with the name of the event engraved on them, and exam materials, such as blue books, will be provided to the first 150 people who attend the event.

Oates said that the breakfast is usually a popular event among students who are studying on campus late at night.

“Normally, around 200 students show up to breakfast,” Oates said.

Mintz is not attending the event this year due to scheduling conflicts, but encourages any student who will be on campus to attend.

“They will have lots of fun, playing games and hanging out,” said Mintz. “Besides, they pay for it in their tuition.”

For more information about the Midnight Breakfast contact Campus Life at (305) 919-5804 or go to their office at the Wolfe University Center, room 141.
Opinion

Dying for Deals

Buyers forget morals while they splurge

MATT RUCKMAN
Staff Writer

Last week on Black Friday, a 34-year-old named Damour was trampled to death in a New York State Walmart. Damour, an employee, was responsible for opening store doors at 6 a.m. and was overcome by the resulting stampede. Damour, along with a pregnant woman and three others, was rushed to the hospital where he was later pronounced dead, killed by the mob.

I’m sure I’m not alone in the horror I felt upon hearing about this story. A man killed for presenting, things—stuff.

Could it be the economy as a whole, for heating up the national environment to such a boiling point that any spark could set it off, even in a toy store? Is it these stores like Walmart, for not providing adequate security on the busiest shopping day of the year, facing a lone man versus thousands of impatient shoppers? When discounts are that deep, is it any surprise how cheap life is?

More likely though, it rests solely on the individual shopper. It seems to have been forgotten that shallower, how cheapened has the Christmas season become?

It’s almost Shakespearean in its tragedy. Damour’s death is as sorrowful as old Julius Caesar’s, stabbed by a dozen knives and who ended up having no one to blame but everyone around him.

Et tu, America?

The Beacon is always shopping for what you think! Share your thoughts on flusm.com/opinion or send them to opinion@flusm.com

Prices To Die For?

Bissell Compact Upright Vacuum $28

Men’s Wrangler Tough Jeans $8

Samaung 50” Plasma HDTV $798

10th graders closer to college than ever

JUAN CARLOS SANCHEZ
Staff Writer

High school is on the express lane.

Students are ready to go to college after tenth grade.

According to a recent TIME magazine article published on Nov. 6, New Hampshire education officials would administer a test, and those that passed would be able to graduate from high school after their sophomore year.

The benefits of graduating students at an earlier age seem to be a win-win for everyone; it would save taxpayers money, lower dropout rates and prepare students at an accelerated pace.

Cutting out the last two years of high school for qualified students would save money.

Instead of wasting money on students that are reading and solving math problems at a college level, educators could use these resources to help those that are having difficulties.

It wouldn’t be a bad idea to start preparing college-bound students in middle school. By doing things this way, they would receive the same classes that they would in high school, just one or two years ahead.

These programs already exist, but to a limited extent.

While algebra and geometry are offered, language arts, history and science seem to have been forgotten.

Language arts could focus on philosophy and interpretations of famous novels. Also, geography could be more emphasized in the curriculum.

Students are legally required to remain in school until they are 16. If they were offered the option of going to college earlier, they might reconsider dropping out since, after all, they would only spend two years in high school.

College would offer the option of leaving their parents’ house but for a good reason: teens would learn the responsibilities of adulthood and learn to value money and the importance of a career. When living alone, students would have to work to pay the bills.

Critics might argue that in tenth grade students aren’t ready to move on to college and hang out with a different crowd.

However, research from the University of Washington suggests otherwise. It says that teens enter college when they are 12 to 14 perform well on an academic and social level.

Concerned principal Rapado believes it’s not worth the risk to take children to an advanced age.

I don’t see any point in doing that, everything is appropriate at its time. I believe that she wouldn’t be mature enough.

However, some parents don’t seem to mind their children going to college two years ahead, like Belkis Yera, who has a child on 7th grade.

If my son passes the test because he prepared, then I would be in favor of it.

The test would be hard and measure the aptitude of my son to go to college,” Yera said.

The United States keeps falling behind in education compared to other industrialized countries.

According to The 2006 National Report Card on Higher Education, Florida was among the worst states to graduate 9th graders in four years. It’s one of the most expensive in tuition costs for low and middle income students, accounting for Bright Futures and financial aid.

In addition to this, Florida makes low investment in need-based financial aid compared with other top-performing states.

With global warming on the rise, a roller coaster economy and the need to solve medical diseases, it’s time we stop creating robots and start getting them ready for a high-quality education.

Graduating in tenth grade would prepare young professionals for the workforce and allow them to tackle these unresolved issues.

Visit flusm.com/opinion to read a column by the Director of Chabad FIU regarding the recent terror attacks in Mumbai, India.
LEONCIO ALVAREZ
Copy Chief

Last week, Madonna gave a crowd of over 50,000 more reason to be thankful on Thanksgiving. Her Sticky and Sweet Tour made a stop at Dolphin Stadium and brought with it all the raunchiness, mind-blowing choreography and offensive hand gestures expected at a Madonna concert, minus the faux British accent.

The time on the ticket said 7:30 p.m. but that was unimportant. Traffic seemed almost unreal at first; all of these people just to see one person. If there was any doubt about Madonna’s relevance, it has been cleaned with this tour. This was just one date on a list of over 50 sold out stadiums she has done or will do.

Starting in Europe, Miami was her final U.S. show and, in the coming month, Madonna will take her tour to South America. She has already beaten her own record for top grossing female live act of all time, according to Billboard.com, and the tour isn’t even over yet. The wait seemed well worth it.

Madonna was all smiles as she took control of the stage, and she would not subdue for the next two hours. At about 10 p.m., the lights were shut off and the stage began to take shape. Three LCD screens showed a piece of hard candy travelling through an array of conveyor belts and pipes in what seemed to be a candy factory.

After the colorful journey, Madonna appeared – on a black throne, legs wide apart in an awkwardly guitar heavy black tuxedo. It hadn't even been ten minutes but Madonna made sure her audience was entertained every dance step of the way.

Madonna is known for revamping her older songs while showcasing her current material.

Her latest rendition of “Vogue” brought old and new together, mixing it up with the drums and brass of her chart toppler, “4 Minutes.” The crowd went haywire as soon as the words “ladies with an attitude” came out of Madonna’s mouth. She followed with another oldie, “Like a Prayer,” where Britney Spears also made a video cameo inside an elevator while whispering the famous lines “express yourself, don’t repress yourself.”

The next part of the show was inspired by the late artist Keith Haring. Haring was a friend of Madonna and his art took center stage during a mix of “Get into the Groove.” His colorful figurines filled the video screens while writing out the lyrics to the song. Sporting 80’s inspired shorts and a hoodie, Madonna gyrated on a moving stripper pole atop DJ Enferno’s turntable.

Making sure to pay homage to her rock roots, Madonna strapped on a guitar several times throughout the night. One time was during her classic “Borderline,” where she picked up a bright pink guitar and rocked out the simple chords that made her a household name.

During another new track, “She’s Not Me,” Madonna and another unexpected guest Pharell Williams gave it to Miami. They sang: “They say that a good thing never lasts and that it has to fall. Those are the people that did not amount to much at all.”

After 25 years on top of her game, Madonna keeps proving that nothing is going to stop her. At 50, yes 50, she has no plans of slowing down. And why should she? She’s Madonna.

No end in sight for the queen of pop’s enduring rule.

STILL ON TOP

No end in sight for the queen of pop’s enduring rule.

REVIEW

Madonna - Sticky and Sweet Tour

BY LEONCIO ALVAREZ

Madonna has no plans of slowing down. At 50, she is proving that nothing is going to stop her. Her Sticky and Sweet Tour made a stop at Dolphin Stadium and brought with it all the raunchiness, mind-blowing choreography and offensive hand gestures expected at a Madonna concert, minus the faux British accent.

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After 25 years on top of her game, Madonna keeps proving that nothing is going to stop her. At 50, yes 50, she has no plans of slowing down. And why should she? She’s Madonna.
Love album combines rock, electronica, strong lyrics

KIMBERLY C. ENGELHARDT Staff Writer

Sometimes it’s hard to describe the amalgamation of two different, yet somewhat similar worlds: rock and electronica. Together, they form one wild yet exciting ear-gasmic experience. What do we call such a titillating experience?

Anodize. Only four years old, Anodize is a local band composed of some of the University’s own alumni as well as guys from different parts of Latin America.

“Signs of You” is their debut album that was released on Nov. 25. Most songs in “Signs of You” are about relationships that are gone away. Instead of having music and lyrics that reflect anger and frustration, the album seems to focus on the inner-workings and thoughts of a sensitive guy trying to get over the girl who never appreciated him from the start.

As a result, we can safely call this a series of “I’m hurt, I don’t leave me.” “I have to break up with you, but I don’t want to” and “I’m hurt” songs, with an awesome and con-tagious beat. On their first single, “Tuesday,” Vito Lastayo, the lead singer, sings, “If you choose to walk away, then I’m not gonna be here on Tuesday.” He threatens the girl that he’ll leave her, but the mere thought tortures him beyond belief: “Only a day away and every moment without her is murder.” More than anything, the song seems to be an operatic dialogue of despair between boy (the victim) and the heartless girl.

Although it doesn’t deal with human relationships directly, it’s a powerful song that touches upon being alone and accepting that reality. The lead singer’s sweet, colorful story-telling voice adds even more color to this musical composition. Just add a marini, and you’re set.

The band fed off the audience while the audience fed off the band. The band played for two hours straight without stopping and didn’t leave the stage before coming back for an encore, as is the custom at shows.

Instead, they played until Club Cinema’s curfew was reached. It was, as after all, their last show on their tour and they went out in a beautifully inspir- ing way.

That night, Broken Social Scene provided refreshingly uplifting nostalgic sounds within our current world of busi-nessmen in suits, creating predictable for-mula products in the form of today’s chart toppers.

MARIANA OCHOA Asst. U/Life Editor

formed in 1999 by Kevin Drew and Brendan Canning, Broken Social Scene is the Justice League of indie rockers. This experimental super group contains 19 Toronto based members. The members of the group are highly successful in the indie rock scene with their solo careers and participation in other bands such as the well known Leslie Feist.

On Nov. 22 at Club Cinema, many of the Broken Social Scene members collaborated to make one very mind-titillating performance. Their music came to life on stage in the most unforgettable manner. Everything from the sound quality that Club Cinema provided to the psychedelic lighting added to the mood of the show.

Drew, founder of the super group, was a delightful frontman with his shaggy hair, warm personality and incredibly strong vocals. It was obvious he was there for the same reason the fans were — to experience the music.

The show was upgraded into an even more incredible level with the accompa-niment of saxophone, violin and horns.

The song selection also made the show versatile because it featured songs to clap along to and songs to be taken away with in a delicious trance.

Elizabeth Powell from the opening band, Land of Talk, also joined in to play with Broken Social Scene and added angel-ic vocals to an already heavenly sound.

The 19 members of the band were not all present that night, but that’s the magic about this group of young musicians. With their conflicting schedules, there are members that can’t show up for spe-cific shows, therefore each performance is different, making the music raw and unpredictable. It was the kind of show where the fans and the band are going through the same emotion of euphoria.

The 19 Toronto based members combined to make one very mind-titillating experience?
Golden Panthers exceeded expectations this year

H ow do you grade out a team that overperforms expectations? The Golden Panthers football team will probably be up at 5-7, following this weekend’s matchup against the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers (2-9) at FIU Stadium. A four-win improvement, and matching the program’s best win total has to be considered a success, but how much so? In assessing the season, it is fair to judge the team by last year’s team, or in a vacuum? If you judge them on expectations, then this season was a resounding success, given the one win predicted by most “experts.”

People who knew more about the team had higher expectations, though not many could have expected a late season run at the conference title. I myself was relatively optimistic and expected around four wins, even by those expectations the season was a success.

However, given how high the expectations got in the last few weeks, when talk of bowl berths and championships wasn’t so far fetched, you can’t blame fans for being disappointed by the final outcome of the season.

OFFENSIVE SPARK

Probably the biggest surprise of the season was the improved play of the offense, led by T.Y. Hilton, who hasput up our expectations of opposing defenses with his school record 969 and counting receiving yards to go with a second nationwide total offensive fumble with his stellar return play, not to mention his passing and rushing touchdowns.

Hilton’s emergence has helped junior quarterback Paul Mc Call solidify his place as the quarterback for now and next season, providing for 2,040 yards and 14 TDs, with only nine interceptions, a significant improvement over last season’s progress from Wayne Younger and Mc Call.

Alongside Hilton, Greg Ellington has emerged as a solid possession receiver, using his great size and hands to make acrobatic catches. He has especially turned it on over the last two games, grabbing 12 passes for 219 yards over that time. Junior Martelle has also shown flashes of potential playing the outside receiver position.

Not all was positive for the offense, as the running game failed to find its footing all year, averaging just 94 yards per game. Departing seniors Julian Reams and A’Mond Nedd continued to under perform, and they closed their careers out with a paltry 761 yards combined between the two. Sophomore Daunte Owens and freshman Darriell Perry managed to make the most of their opportunities, averaging more yards per carry and showing more potential than Reams and Nedd ever had.

The offensive line has been good at times, but their tendency to break down when faced with pressure situations might have cost the team two late comebacks against FAU and Louisiana Marmorto.

Defense grade: B Offensive MVP: T.Y. Hilton

STEADY DEFENSE

At times, this defense carried the FIU team on their back, and at other times the entire unit looked like they were wearing their helmets backwards.

The highest point was the opening home game against then No. 12 USF, who scored just 17 points. The defense caused a turnover and forced a couple of field goals on goal line stands, keeping them in the game with a spirited performance to christen the new stadium.

On the other hand the last quarter of the FAU game showed how vulnerable the defense could be at times. FAU’s quarterback Rusty Smith tore through the secondary for 28 points in the fourth quarter.

The secondary was, however, the strength of the defense for much of the season, with safeties Jeremiah Weatherspoon and Marshall Mc Donald patrolling the tops and cornerbacks Robert M itchell and Anthony Gaitor shutting down opposing passing games in the flats.

Gaitor got his hands on the ball more than any other player, picking four balls off and getting another 10 tipped passes, while Mitchell led the team in tackles and was all over the field.

The guys down front struggled to keep the opposing teams’ running games in check most of the time, though they were pretty good at getting in the backfield and getting tackles for a loss. Quentin Newman quietly had a strong year at the defensive end position, picking up four sacks and 1 TFL, while Scotty Bryant, M ichael Dominguez, and Ryan Martinez were all around the leaders of the team in tackles.

Defense grade: B Defensive MVP: Mitchell and Gaitor

TEAM’S SPECIALTY

While much has been made of T.Y.’s abilities returning the ball, picking up two touchdowns and 14 tackles on special teams and a blocked punt return for a touchdown. Dustin Rivest improved his field goal and, but was still just 10-13 on field goals.

Special Teams grade: A- Special Teams MVP: Munera and Phillips

NEXT YEAR

For the first time ever, the future is bright for this team, with many returning contributors on all sides of the ball. The offense is led by mostly underclassmen, and should be one of the top in the conference next season.

On the other end O’Deiris’ five TDs were able to block a couple of punts each, and Phillips picked up 14 tackles on special teams and a blocked punt return for a touchdown. Dustin Rivest improved his field goal and, but was still just 10-13 on field goals.

The defense has depth, and returns many of their playmakers in the secondary and linebacker corps, though the defensive line will take some time.

There is no reason why this team shouldn’t be able to be one of the top three teams in the Sun Belt next season, and looking at their schedule, with the exception of Florida and Alabama, every game on their schedule is winnable.

You have to grade this team highly based on exceeding expectations at the beginning, but they are knocked down by failing to close out against ULM and FAU, which could’ve led them to a bowl game.

2008 team grade: B 2008 team MVP: Hilton
FINAL CURTAIN CALL
Golden Panthers look to rebound against Hilltoppers

ANDREW JULIAN
Sports Director

Coming off a 57-50 overtime loss to FAU, in the Shula Bowl, the Golden Panthers (4-7, 3-4 SBC) look to send their senior class out with a victory against Western Kentucky (2-9), in the final game of the season at FIU Stadium.

The FIU offense has been its best at the end of the season, putting forth its best offensive outputs in recent weeks. FIU has out gained five of its last eight opponents, and is 4-4 in those games, and picked up 513 yards against FAU. The Golden Panthers are averaging 352.8 yards per game in those games, and will look to continue their strong offensive output against a Hilltopper squad that ranks 71st in the FBS in total offense, at 369.8 yards per game.

For FIU, the offensive process begins with their offensive line, which has allowed just three sacks over the past two games, and has paved the way for back-to-back 100-yard rushers for the first time in four years. FIU’s offensive line is a healthy as it has been all year, and has developed a continuity that has allowed them to be playing well at the end of the year. The young offensive line features just one senior, Dustin Gibson, and in addition to peaking at the end of this season, should have a full cupboard as FIU looks toward the off season.

Paul McCall has been one of the beneficiaries of the steady offensive line play, throwing for a school record 400 yards against the Owls, and putting together a productive season, after being embroiled in a quarterback battle in training camp. McCall has completed 52 percent of his passes for 2,049 yards and 14 touchdowns, with just nine interceptions. McCall will attempt to become the starting first FIU quarterback to throw fewer than 10 interceptions in a season, and the junior form Hollywood Hills will have a good chance to post the first season bay a signal caller with more touchdowns thrown than interceptions in three seasons.

After posting 116 yards and two scores on the heels of a 127 yard one TD performance by Julian Reams, freshman running back Darriet Perry should be a factor once again this week. Perry, who was thrust into duty because of injuries, should have another opportunity to show what he can do again, as he, and the senior Reams, will be the main tailbacks getting carries in the contest.

Greg Ellington and T.Y. Hilton have evolved into one of the best one-two receiver combinations in the Sun Belt. Hilton has collected 49 passes for 969 yards and seven touchdowns, while Ellington has added 29 receptions for 470 yards and three scores. Hilton has posted the greatest receiving season in FIU history, already having set the record for yards and touchdowns, and remains within striking distance of FIU’s first 1,000-yard season.

Defensively, FIU will have some holes to plug against WKU, having allowed 524 yards to FAU last week. The Golden Panthers should have an easier time, not facing a top-tier offensive attack, in Western Kentucky, that averages 295.7 yards per game, 110th in the FBS.

David Wolke will try to figure out the FIU defense for the Hilltoppers. He’s posted an even eight TD’s and eight picks this season, and had thrown for 1,140 yards. The Hilltoppers have allowed 23 sacks this season, will dominate the game, and give the 19 FIU seniors something to remember for their last home game. T.Y. Hilton will eclipse the 1,000 yard mark, and Paul McCall will post the best TD-to-INT ratio in the history of the young FIU football program, and the Golden Panthers will roll.

FIU 42, WKU 3D