SPOTLIGHT

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

SJC ARCS has a new executive board for the upcoming school year.

OPINION PAGE 4

Graduating in three years grants plenty of freedoms.

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

Put down the renunciation and crack open the summer wine with affordable wines.

SPORTS PAGE 3

Big 12 champs have a point as OU takes two of three from WKU.

OPINION PAGE 4

Relax, you’ve been doing this all your life. Ask any middle-aged band student.

LIFE PAGE 5

Colombia’s Edith Veylala breaks down columns and what she means to you.

SPORTS PAGE 3

Café.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FIU Chemistry Club – Intermezzo, April 8, 7 p.m. Come with your chemistry student friends.

Health Occupations Students of America – Meeting, April 9, 3:30 p.m. Learn how to have really bad handwriting.

Sons of Peace – Meeting, April 9, 4:30 p.m. Learn how to have really bad handwriting.

Marc Anthony, April 9, 9 p.m. Enjoy music from the “Selena” headliner.

Call:
For the complete calendar, please see page 8 or visit FIUSM.com/calendar.

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy
LOW 62, HIGH 73

THURSDAY
Partly cloudy
LOW 62, HIGH 79

FRIDAY
Isolated 0-tstorms
LOW 72, HIGH 83

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Close victory over ranked conference foe
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SPOTLIGHT

WEATHER

PAGE 3

Golden Panther Band at risk after six years of service

JORGE VALENS
Asst. News Director

After six years of existence, FIU’s Golden Panther Marching Band faces elimination in the shadow of massive budget cuts.

On March 24, a public forum was held in an empty sound hall at the School of Music in order for students and band members to emphasize the importance of the band and to voice their opinions on how the band can be spared.

According to Carla Geiger, FIU Athletic Bands’ director, the College of Architecture and The Arts, also known as CARTA, currently funds 65 percent of the band; the remainder is split between Student Government Association and the Athletics Department, each funding 21 percent and 14 percent respectively.

With budget cuts on the way for the next fiscal year, CARTA may not be able to fund the band any longer and SGA has been talking about cutting funding to the band altogether.

“We do not have the $237,000 that was our share of the cost of the band,” said former CARTA dean, Juan Bueno. “We don’t have that in the budget and we are about to lose another $800,000 now.”

He said that these cuts are not only unavoidable, but are also complimentary to the budget cuts the BAND, page 2

Lawmakers outline budget cuts

BILL KACZOR
AP Writer

Proposed budgets released by both Florida legislative chambers for the next fiscal year are $600 million apart, with the Senate’s on the high side partly because it includes Seminole Indian gaming money not in the House plan.

Gov. Charlie Crist, meanwhile, on Friday stepped up efforts to persuade both Republican-controlled chambers to approve a compact he originally made with the tribe to expand gambling at its seven Florida casinos before the state Supreme Court ruled it needs legislative approval. Both chambers have since drafted separate plans, with Crist’s version somewhere in the middle.

The Senate’s proposed $656.5 billion spending plan for the budget year beginning July 1 is about $100 million more than the state’s current budget. The House plan weighs in at $65 billion, or half a billion less than what is now being spent. Both proposals were distributed to lawmakers late Thursday. Appropriations committees will consider them next week. Floor votes are expected the following week.

The Senate’s budget bill includes $538 million from the Seminole compact. That includes $288 million carried over from the current budget year. The tribe has put that much aside awaiting the Legislature’s approval of Crist’s compact. The Senate is

LEGISLATURE, page 2

Election Code revision, new Finance Code to be presented

DAVID BARRIOS
Senior Staff Writer

Beginning April 20, said the House plan.

SJC-UP SENATE

During their penultimate meeting of the 2008-2009 school year, the senate of the Student Government Council at University Park passed a resolution to aid the Marching Band and a dilemma over the new College of Arts and Sciences senate seat was brought to the attention of the senators.

SJC-UP Chief Justice Leonard Geogna said that the fifth College of Arts and Sciences seat was improperly filled.

The College of Social Work, Criminal Justice and Public Affairs is now part of the College of Arts and Sciences; therefore, calling for an additional seat in the college.

The new seat was created under the new Student Government Association constitution, which was up for vote by students, and passed on during the April 1-2 elections. The seat was filled by Pablo Martinez.

“Proper protocol was not followed in the filling of this new position,” Geogna said. “This position can only be filled by special elections or filled during next year’s elections.”

A clear action has yet to be made as to how the senate will deal with this issue.

The senate also discussed the FIU Marching Band, which is currently seeking funding after losing most of its funding from the College of Architecture and The Arts.

Senate Speaker Jean Roseme and Senator Chris Cabral presented resolutions to the body, asking for SGA to aid the marching band in seeking funding.

“The Student Government at Florida International University is willing to work with the other financial supporters of the FIU Marching Band to put forward a plan to save the band in these tough economic times, and for the future,” read the original draft of the resolution.

“We cannot take the burden on this,” said SJC-UP president-elect, Anthony Rionda, while speaking to the body.

After deliberations, it was determined that SGC-UP would not seek to mediate finding a way to fund the band. The senate did, however, pass a resolution stating that they fully support the efforts of the band.

Senators Moses Aluicio introduced a bill to strike Section II, Clause B of the Elections Code and replace the requirements for appointing elections commissioner and board members.

The new bill, approved by the senate, called for elections commissioners and elections board members to be appointed by the SGC-UP president after submission of an application. The candidates would then be approved by a simple majority of the senate during any meeting where there is quorum.

Compeller Robert Chung during his presentation to the body also said that a new Finance Code would be introduced into the senate during the April 13 meeting.
Budget cuts threaten marching band

University spending cut by 4 percent

Both chambers plan to reduce state jobs again. In the past, nearly all were unfilled positions, but Senate Ways and Means Chairman JD Alexander, R-Lake Wales, acknowledged as many as 800 state employees might be laid off. Both budget plans would cut nursing home spending — the Senate by $81 million and the House by $69 million.

Nursing homes and advocates for the elderly say $787 million in health care stimulus money could have prevented these cuts, but it’s being diverted to other purposes.

“Our state is in a fiscal crisis that is about to turn into a moral crisis,” said Sen. Nan Rich, D-Weston.

March 28

A vehicle was stolen off FIU property and recovered by a state trooper. The vehicle was in good condition, aside from a few minor scratches. The owner of the vehicle was informed to retrieve her vehicle at South Land Towing.

March 29

A 2007 Saturn was vandalized while parked in University Park Apartments, Building E. The rear window was shattered and the trunk dented and scratched along with both doors on the passenger side.

March 31

A vehicle parked at the University Park campus was damaged in what appears to be an attempted burglary. Both door locks of the vehicle were punched in, causing severe damage to the door handle. The driver of the vehicle was informed to retrieve her vehicle at South Land Towing.

April 2

A burglary was reported on a parked vehicle in Parking Lot One at Biscayne Bay Campus. The passenger window had been smashed open. Stolen items included a radio and Bluetooth, estimated at a $600 value.

FINISHING UP...
FOODGASM

As these last few weeks of the semester wind down, I am certainly groaning from my course load. My days are now devoted to term papers and final projects. So much, that I come home just to pre-nap before my bedtime. As soon as April is over, I don’t want to see my friend Power-Point for a while. What I want is a nice glass of wine.

But what pairs well with summer time and our pockets? Even though our image of summer time is painted with rolling beaches and road trips to Orlando for a Disney escape, in reality we need to keep our student budget thinking caps on.

That’s why I think Columbia Crest Two Vines Merlot from Washington is a perfect pour for everyday life. It has complex texture, and this medium-bodied wine receiving an 87 – even naming it one of the best valued wines of 2008. However, scoring of wines based on taste.

The Merlot, turn a summer party into a fiesta by making sangria, a typical Spanish wine punch. For best results:

• Pour the fruit puree into a glass pitcher with a wooden spoon to stir
• Then add two sliced oranges, one sliced lemon and sliced peaches to add taste to the mix.
• Add sugar for taste and pour it into a glass pitcher with a wooden spoon to stir – your guests will go crazy for the authentic look and simple recipe.

As for the Merlot, turn your glass of bubbly into a traditional Italian cocktail, the Peach Bellini, by adding fresh peach juice to your wine. For best results:

• Puree peaches in your blender with a splash of water and some sugar for taste.
• Pour the fruit puree into the bottom of your glass and top with fizzy club soda.

Good luck surviving the next few weeks. I know I need it, but who needs the summer to justify pouring myself a chilled glass of Prosecco? I will be taking my own advice tonight. Here’s to another year of foodgasm.
How to cope with chaos

The world is pretty insane. We know that CEOs are going to be making millions even as their companies are going under, that in any given place there is going to be genocide, poverty, corruption and war crimes. Despite the multinational conglomerate charities that have been in operation for decades, and despite cancer, hunger and the like, no one expects these tragedies to be a thing of the past anytime soon.

The United Nations is powerless to stop excess in the hands of corporations and has been contributing to the problem recently. The methods for dealing with such a crazy world are many, and as you read this I hope to explore some of the more common ways of coping with madness, as well as provide my own suggestions on how to make it from cradle to grave without going completely batty.

Some people cling to their guns and religion, as President Obama has said. As he found out soon after, though, people do not like being told they are clinging on to their guns and religion – makes them sound a little crazy.

The truth of the matter is that these are two methods that many do use to cope with the world at large.

According to a 2007 survey by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, 78.4 percent of all American adults identify themselves as Christian.

In addition to the percent that identify as other religions, this survey does not make it clear that America does cling to its religion.

The reason that people have always been religious even before this recession is that the world has always been coping with chaos.

Religion was created as a way to deal with the crazy notion of a bunch of cognizant beings on a spinning piece of rock in the middle of the universe with no idea how they got there or what they are supposed to be doing, and with an inclination to destroy each other.

Despite the recent tightening of wallets, gun sales have spiked both locally and nationally. This creates an even more convincing picture of one way that Americans cope with the fear of uncertain times.

Even in my own household it has been suggested that we go out and buy guns to protect ourselves because things will go awry any minute now as the economy continues to suffer.

Becoming fearful and reclusive is not the best way to deal with this slippery slope, however. We try to turn to more positive support mechanisms.

My favorite three ways to cope with existence form a trifecta: food, friends and funny.

I almost like eating as much as sleeping, but the reason that it is at the top of the list is because I have a lot more time for it. (Also, “sleep” doesn’t start with an F and it would have thrown off the alliteration.) Seriously, though, one cup of Moe’s queso dip and everything is right with the world.

Secondly, I cannot begin to adequately express how valuable my friends have been to me this semester, from supporting me to excel in a lot of extracurricular activities, encouraging me to study harder for classes and providing me with many memories, my fellow peer advisors and pledge brothers.

Whenever someone asks me what my hobbies are, I never list specific activities but simply say being with people that I enjoy.

Humor provides us with a way to mock those things in life that otherwise fill our existence with strife and a means for disconnecting with reality.

Whether you go to one of Student Programming Council’s frequent comedy shows or simply tune into the “Daily Show” each night, laughter is helpful to the body and mind.

So laugh with me, preach to me or wrap your head in duct tape to keep your sanity. I’m doing whatever is most effective to keep your head from exploding.

BEGIN THE SOUPBOX: AN OP-ED COLUMN

Student involvement key to a better SGA

This article is a response to Eric Feldman’s April 3 Read This Now! column, “Call for a better SGA.”

As many of you know, March 23, 2009, marked the beginning of your Student Government Association’s election process.

I am sure that as you walked through the Graham Center, you were approached by numerous candidates seeking your vote. These encounters are meant to inform the student body on who is seeking to represent you, as Feldman claims, “to create the corrupt, priority-demanding political machine that make up real government.”

I had the privilege to serve in SGA with several of the candidates running for senate, and I can honestly say that helping the FIU student body is their top priority. Several of these candidates, and other members of SGA, were a part of the Florida Student Association’s “Rally in Tally,” where they spent more than eight hours on a bus to Tallahassee to confront the state legislature on issues such as differential tuition, reducing budget cuts on higher education, etc. These candidates do not do anything that might interfere with their job of helping students.
Mottola’s latest brings back the sweet from Superbad

ANA MARIA AROCHA
Contributing Writer

Writer-Director Greg Mottola has a knack for capturing adolescent embarrassment, angst and pain. In Adventureland, he depicts all the self-loathing and confusion many recent college graduates face when thrust into the real world in a quirky, nostalgic way.

The last time we heard from him was with 2007’s Superbad, when he introduced viewers to misfit teenagers that are willing to do anything to make their last high school party memorable and move on to college a bit more experienced.

What could easily have become a cliché and fallen into the black hole of forgotten teen comedies turned out to be the conscience-driven and rather insightful. In his latest comedy, Adventureland, Mottola proves once again that he can take the average coming-of-age story and make it memorable.

Loaded with the same crude jokes, hilarious one-liners and off-the-wall antics that made Superbad a success, Adventureland takes a sensitive approach to growing up.

Set in Pennsylvania in 1987, it is the story of James (Jesse Eisenberg), a recent college graduate with his eyes set on attending Columbia University for the summer, unhappy to be wasting his time in a theme park. Unhappy to be wasting his time with his friends.

James finds himself looking for a job over the summer. But when his father gets demoted, he figures he might as well work for a minimum. Once again, Mottola’s casting was on point. Reynolds is impeccable and he steals every scene he is in, regardless of whether he has any lines.

The strangest casting choice was Ryan Reynolds. His credits include funny but not necessarily smart movies where acting ability is a minimum. Once again, Mottola’s casting was on point. Reynolds succeeded in making an otherwise detestable character tolerable.

He plays both friend and rival to James and achieves the same relatable, detestable character relatable. He manages to portray Em’s mysterious and obviously damaged Erin (Kristen Stewart), amusement park superstar/maintenance man Mike (Ryan Reynolds), and the quirky managers Bobby (Bill Hader) and Paulette (Kristen Wiig), among others.

Mottola has a talent for choosing actors that can take stereotypical characters and make them seem unique and oddly familiar. His leading man, Jesse Eisenberg, is enough of a reason to watch the film. Eisenberg’s perfectly awkward performance is disarming in its sincerity.

Watching him explain why James is still a virgin at 22 is uncomfortable yet heartwarming, you feel embarrassed for him but proud at the same time.

Surprisingly, Kristen Stewart did not disappoint. Based on her performance in the vampire romance Twilight, expectations were not very high for Stewart. But here she manages to portray Erin’s enigmatic, pain and confusion with a self-aware quality that makes her real and relatable. When she cries you want to cry too, not because the moment is particularly heavy, but because you have gained some insight into this character that could not have otherwise been attained with Stewart.

Perhaps the most memorable character was Joel. This lovable Russian literature buff resolves in how far from cool he is while yearning to be accepted by the most attractive girl in the park. Kurt’s comedic timing is impeccable and he steals every scene he is in, regardless of whether he has any lines.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Web site has a detailed description on how to read your foods’ nutrition facts.

You’ve probably checked out the nutrition facts label here and there at the grocery store. Perhaps you’ve turned to the label to read how much sugar is in one serving of your favorite cereal or how many calories are in that pack of chocolate chip cookies.

But the truth of the matter is that you don’t really know the truth about the things you are consuming, the more likely you will be to avoid unnecessary calories.

The FDA recommends that for protein, you choose foods that are lean, low in fat or fat free.

One of the major things on the nutrition facts label is the percent daily value, according to the FDA. “Calories provide a measure of how much energy you get from a serving of this food,” according to the FDA. “Many Americans consume more calories than they need without meeting recommended intakes for a number of nutrients.”

Some nutrients should be consumed with limits: fat, carbohydrates and sodium and are identified in yellow.

“Eating too much fat, saturated fat, trans fat, cholesterol or sodium may increase your risk of certain chronic diseases, like heart disease, some cancers, or high blood pressure,” according to the administration.

Some foods are high in fat, such as almonds or milk, you want to cry too, not because you are consuming more than you should.

Check your Pulse every Wednesday for the latest in health and wellness.

You’ve probably checked out the nutrition facts label here and there at the grocery store. Perhaps you’ve turned to the label to read how much sugar is in one serving of your favorite cereal or how many calories are in that pack of chocolate chip cookies.

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To read your foods’ nutrition facts.

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Matisyahu discusses religious background, new album

NATALIE LEVY
Staff Writer

On March 26, the eve of the Miami Winter Music Conference, Brooklyn emcee, Matisyahu, sat down with The Beacon before a concert to discuss his latest album and future tour plans.

The Beacon: I understand you have a show tonight; you’re cutting it kind of close.
Matisyahu: Oh, no. We probably won’t go on until a little bit later.

B: Alright, no problem then! So, you’re down here for the Winter Music Conference?
M: Yeah, that’s right.

B: When does Light drop?
M: It should be out like May/June. I think probably early June.

B: If I can ask you a more personal question, in 2007 you did a New Times interview where you said that your move to Brooklyn until I was already in my early 20s.

So, it was kind of like any kid sitting there and listening to reggae music so, I guess, for me it just really hit home and I took on the whole thing. I just listened to it all the time. I think the main thing is being able to listen; if you’re a lover of music and it penetrates into your soul and you’re creative then you’ll find a way to make it yours and, kind of, express yourself in that form.

B: So when you first started, you were this Yeshiva kid, going to school and then sitting on your couch and beat-boxing?
M: No, I didn’t go to Yeshiva until I was like 22, 23. I was raised with not much of a Jewish background. I had some Jewish background but I went to public school.

Most of my friends were into rap music but I was kind of like the hippie kid, because I was into Phish and some of the Grateful Dead and that stuff and then sooner or later someone played me a Nas album, It was written... and I just fell in love with that record.

From then on, I just started writing rhymes and my friends would all rap and freestyle and I started beat-boxing and that’s just kind of how I got started.

B: If I can ask you a more personal question, in 2007 you did a New Times interview where you said that you no longer necessarily identify with Lubavitch and hanging out in Crown Heights for four or five years being religious and then you said that you really started to ask me about the Lubavitch movement, what influenced you to go in a different direction?
M: Well, because I live in Crown Heights and I went to Lubavitch Yeshiva most of ties to the Jewish world were with the Lubavitch community. People really started to ask me about the movement but I felt that I really wasn’t the right spokesperson for it being that I wasn’t raised in that community. I was fresh and new to the community, three, four, five years being religious and hanging out in Crown Heights. I just wanted people to like me for me and not really associate me with any one group. And maybe that didn’t come across in a way that everyone was able to hear and completely understand what I meant but that’s just what happens.

B: How has Miami been treating you?
M: It’s always great whenever we come here. I think we’re actually going to start our tour here May 30, either in Miami or Fort Lauderdale.
Offense overmatches Western Kentucky pitching

The Beacon – Wednesday, April 8, 2009

BASEBALL, page 8

Polizzano worked with his first advantage of the game and after a shaky beginning, regained his form to shut down the Hilltoppers’ offense for five consecutive innings.

He gave the offense a chance to keep on building a larger lead. “My fastball was really good today,” Polizzano said. “I really didn’t have it my last couple starts, but then I found it.”

The lead got up to five runs, but head coach Turtle Thomas was not going to let his hitters become complacent against an offensive roster leading the Sun Belt Conference in team average (.343) and slugging percentage (.568).

“When we had eight, I went up to every hitter, and said, ‘You think eight [runs] is enough?’ They said, ‘No.’ Then when we had 10 [runs], I said, ‘You think 10 is enough?’ They all said ‘no’ again.”

And coach Thomas was right as the Hilltoppers were not going to go away quietly. Polizzano pitched seven innings and gave up five runs, all in the second inning.

He did not come out for the start of the eighth inning.

Eric Berkowitz faced Wade Gaynor, who drilled a two-run home run. Jorge Marban entered the game and finally got the first out of the inning.

But Marban would not go unscathed as Matt Hightower followed Gaynor’s lead and hit a two-run home run as well to cut the lead to 10-9.

Marban closed out the inning, and the Golden Panthers’ offense got two more runs in the bottom of the eighth to give the bullpen some breathing room.

R.J. Fondon entered the ninth inning even though he began the season as one of the starting pitchers.

Marban was closing games all season, but Fondon took the ball in the final inning for the first time this season.

He did not disappoint and shut the door on the Hilltoppers, who lead the conference with a 9-3 record against Sun Belt teams.

The Golden Panthers have yet to lose a series this season. Their 19-8 overall record puts them one win away from matching last season’s.

“They’ve been the best team in the conference all year and to take two of three from them is big,” Townsend said. “I think it sends a message to the rest of the conference that we’re the real deal this year.”

Team beats first-ranked foe since 2007, McClain shines

SOFTBALL, page 8

McClain held the Ragin’ Cajuns to just two runs and eight hits after they had totaled 17 in the two wins the day before.

Bourgeois (16-5) pitched all seven innings for UL and struck out seven.

The FIU offense used four UL errors to total four hits and score three runs, one earned, breaking the Ragin’ Cajuns record of going 44.2 innings without giving up an earned run.

FIU had runners at first and second with one out in the top of third inning when Rodriguez singled to right field with the game tied at 1-1 to load the bases.

Freshman Jenny Welch then came up for the Golden Panthers and laid down a double to score two runs and give FIU a 3-1 lead.

Gabriele Bridges hit her 11th homer of the season for UL (23-8, 6-3 SBC) in the bottom of the sixth inning to bring her team within one run, however, McClain was able to efficiently defend in the final moments to earn the win for FIU (20-22, 4-8 Sun Belt).

The Golden Panthers will play their next game at Florida Atlantic in Boca Raton on Wednesday, April 8 at 6 p.m., followed by a three-game series against Middle Tennessee which will begin with a double-header on April 10 at 5 p.m.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The University Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on April 13, 2009 at:

Biscayne Bay Campus:
10:30 am
WUC 155
University Park Campus:
2:00 pm
GC East Ballroom

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the Activity & Service Fee. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2009 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

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Panzers win series against top opponent

Defense forces six turnovers in win

ANDREW JUAN
Sports Director

The FIU defense forced the offense into mistakes throughout the evening, to take the spring game 43-21.

A hurricane force, the FIU defense was able to halt any penetration by the Golden Panthers. The FIU defense made sure to create opportunities to force turnovers throughout the evening, to take the spring game 43-21.

Townsend, Louisville

The Hilltoppers' offense drew blood first, but Townsend's blast would jump-start the once dormant Golden Panthers' offense. In the fourth, Ryan Mollica's double with the bases loaded gave the Golden Panthers their first lead of the game at 6-5.

Tyler Townsend hits his first of two two-run home runs against the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers on April 5 at home.

Sergio Bonilla
Asst. Sports Director

Tyler Townsend chose the right game to get out of his brief slump.

With the three-game series on the line, the conference's top hitter helped send its best team – the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers – back home with a 12-9 loss on April 5 at University Park Stadium.

Down 5-0 in the third inning, Townsend launched his first of two two-run home runs in the game to begin his team's comeback victory. Townsend had just four hits in his previous 14 at bats coming into the third game of the series.

An opposite field home run by Bourgeois (16-4) posed the biggest threat in game two, but Townsend's blast would jump-start the once dormant Golden Panthers' offense.

In the fourth. Ryan Mollica's double with the bases loaded gave the Golden Panthers their first lead of the game at 6-5. Townsend was up next, and he delivered another home run over the left field wall. He went 3-for-5 with five RBI. Pablo Bermudez was the lead off hitter and he scored twice on 2-for-4 hitting. The first three hitters combined to go 7-for-14 with eight RBI and five runs.

Team salvages one game versus No. 20 Louisiana

Stephanie Gabriel
Staff Writer

The FIU softball team seemed to have no answer for No. 20 University of Louisiana in the first game.

The Ragin' Cajuns felt right at home on the first day of the three-game series, which took place in Lafayette on April 4-5, continuing their hot streak of not allowing an earned run in their last seven games this season.

UL 9, FIU 0

Sun Belt Preseason Pitcher of the Year, Ashley Brignac (6-2), was too much for the Golden Panthers in the first game; she threw a five-inning, one-hitter, resulting in a 9-0 loss for FIU in five innings due to the run-rule.

Kasey Barrett (10-9) threw 3 1/3 innings for FIU giving up all nine runs, four of which were earned.

Brandon Ellison wraps up running back Devantra lee in the 2009 Blue and Gold spring game. (Above) Jason Frierson, who led the team with 66 receiving yards evades a Marcellus Manear tackle. (Left) DT Jonas Murrell stalks Lee, in a contest that was dominated by the FIU defense. The D won the scrimmage 43-21.

Senior Kim Rodriguez was the only Golden Panther to reach base; she went 1-for-4 with a single and walk.

UL 8, FIU 0

UL starting pitcher Donna Bourgeois (16-4) posed the biggest threat in game two, striking out eight Golden Panthers over five shutout innings.

FIU freshman Jennifer Gniadek (7-9) gave up five runs to the Ragin' Cajuns in just three innings.

Once UL had produced a 5-0 lead, Paige Cassidy came in to relieve Gniadek. She gave up two runs due to an error before Ashley McClain came in the bottom of the fifth inning to finish up for FIU.

UL recorded 11 hits and eight runs to steal the second win, another game that ended due to the run-rule in just five innings, which marked FIU’s third run-rule loss of the season.

UL 3, FIU 2

With defeat lurking in their minds from day one, FIU tried to avoid a weekend sweep on the second day of the series.

Freshman Ashley McClain (2-0) pitched her second complete game of the season and led the Golden Panthers to their first defeat of a ranked team since February 2008 when the team