The last game of the 2007 season against North Texas, Mario Cristobal got his first career win as a Football Bowl Subdivision coach.

Likewise, quarterback Paul McCall notched his first victory as a starter in the memorable 38-19 victory. The Golden Panthers snapped a 23-game losing streak and avoided a wireless season in the last bout ever played at the storied Orange Bowl. The momentum led to an uptick 2008 season in which the Golden Panthers won a program best five games.

When FIU (2-7, 2-4 Sun Belt) faces North Texas (2-7, 1-5) on Nov. 14 at FIU Stadium, Cristobal and McCall will once again look to beat the Mean Green in order to change their fortunes in what has been a disappointing 2009 campaign. FIU is not eligible for a bowl berth after losing last week to Middle Tennessee, and injuries have piled up like a snowball. The Golden Panthers followed up a thrilling overtime win vs. Louisiana on Oct. 31 with a humbling 27-point loss at MTSU.

“There are some positives to be drawn,” Cristobal said. “Obviously when you give up that many points there are some things that you do have to fix and remedy, one of them being the injury part. You have to go with what you have. A lot of freshmen are playing, and guys that walked on last year are playing and they are doing everything they can.”

McCall is day-to-day with an elbow injury that forced him to sit out the MTSU game, but he practiced this week in a limited manner.

**FOOTBALL, page 7**

**CAMPUS TRADITIONS**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Homecoming Spirit Parade**, Nov. 13, 6 p.m. Join in as the Spirit of FIU shines on this year’s parade. It will take place on University Drive between North and South Campus.

**FIU Blue, Nov. 13, 7:45 p.m.** Enjoy the musical stylings of R&B, Latin, and Afro-Cuban bands.

**FIU Football, Nov. 13, 12 Noon**

**Showtime**, Nov. 13, 1:30 p.m.

**Kicks Off**, Nov. 13, 2 p.m.

**Panther Prowl, Nov. 9**

**LACC Lecture**

**Students to deliver toys to Nicaragua**

**MELOSA CACERES**

**Staff Writer**

With the holiday season around the corner, one group of students is preparing to make Christmas more enjoyable for children living in a place where presents aren’t always found under the tree.

More than five students will be traveling to Nicaragua in the hope of making children’s dreams a reality by delivering toys and other goods through December of Dreams, a humanitarians program centered at FIU.

“In our society, December is supposed to be a very happy time and in these undeveloped countries, unfortunately, it’s not always as positive as we see here,” said student coordinator Andrea Cruz, a sophomore majoring in journalism.

Created in 2005 by Christian Jarquin, who was then an Honors College student, December of Dreams is a growing project that collects school supplies and toys for impoverished children in Nicaragua.

“I was born into a top middle class family and then, after the war in Nicaragua, I lost everything,” said Jarquin, an FIU alumni who currently serves as the program’s director. “I’m trying to give back to the children who are playing in the...“
Students win first place at cook-off

ASHLEY SALAMANCA
Staff Writer

Carefully sliced brisket, doused in a gravy barbecue sauce and sandwiched between a homemade roll, and a vanilla-pear champagne sorbet for dessert was part of the winning menu at a beef brisket cook-off Nov. 7.

The menu belonged to students of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, who won first prize for the second year in a row at the annual competition.

Blanca Rojas, a HTM graduate student; Mary Thomas, a senior HTM major; Christian Poole and Max Albano, both junior HTM majors, along with the guidance of Chef Instructor Michael Moran, competed against students from 1,300-2,000 at Johnson & Wales University, Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts Miami, the Florida Culinary Institute in West Palm Beach, and the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale during the Flamingo Family Food Festival.

HTM was the only nonculinary school participating. “We’re a management hospitality school, not a culinary school,” said Thomas. “We’ve now won twice in a row. That has a lot to do with the program run by Chef Moran and teaching assistant Bianca Rojas. It’s quite amazing that we won.”

After winning first-prize last year with papaya-glazed ribs, jicama mint slaw and puffed sweet potato, HTM students took first prize once more with a low-and-slow brisket in a guava fire barbecue sauce served on homemade bread, and accompanied by a mango-corn slaw and a vanilla-pear champagne sorbet. The green mango slaw was prepared with toasted corn and grilled red peppers in a tangerine vinaigrette made with rice vinegar, lemon and topped with fresh cilantro.

“EJU was original. Their dishes complemented each other well in a very different way,” said Dan Richael, judge and co-chair of the South Florida Chapter of ADFW, to The Reason. “Most people made brisket with coleslaw, and they made a mango slaw. The champagne sorbet was very refreshing.”

The other two judges in the competition were Morris Smyle from Grand Western, the meat sponsor for the competition, and Albert “Al” Will, president on the board of directors for Flamingo Gardens.

Taste, presentation and sides were the criteria used for judging. Richael said the HTM students’ menu fulfilled these criteria the best.

“They thought outside the box, and that’s what made them win. The combination, the side dishes and the overall presentation was the best,” Richael said.

The food took over two days to prepare, down to the homemade bread.

“We made our own bread, kind of like a chalihu,” said Rojas. “We added sugar and eggs to make it sweet and soft. We went over something for between chalihu and a biscoito.”

The brisket itself was the only cut on site in the dishes and against the grain.

“We cooked for all day yesterday and low. We started at around 6 a.m., and we took it out of the oven at around 3 p.m.,” Rojas said. “The meat was cooked again at a low temperature before the competition began.”

“I’ve had brisket from Texas to Florida through the Carolinas and Tennessee. I loved the competition – it was great,” Will said.

Johnson & Wales University made a pulled beef brisket with an optional chipotle orbero sauce.

... For these kids, these are the first Christmas toys that they are receiving, so we would like to be able to give them to those children. So every December, they know a group of students is going to come to bring them toys, play with them and help their community,” Cruz said.

December of Dreams will be taking part in ExpoNica on Nov. 13-15 at Tamiami Park. For more information, visit DecemberofDreams.org or contact Christian Jarquin at christianjarquin@yahoo.com.

Students win first place at cook-off

Children in need get Christmas presents

Chicana: Russia falling behind

RUSSELL SHAPIRO
Assistant Staff Writer

Russia, citing its lack of popu- lation growth, social and infrastruc- ture and innovation, and presented the U.S.’s stance on the country.

“The U.S. has no problem with BRIC,” he continued. “We have no problem with any group that fosters global economic growth.”

He went on to say that all the U.S. asks of BRIC is that they stay on a level field, letting currencies move up and down freely to accurately reflect economic reality – a notion that many BRIC countries have complied with, according to Chicola. Although students enjoyed the lecture and the insight it provided to those pursuing careers in foreign service, some agreed they would have liked to have heard more about the role of women in the discussed countries’ economies.

“I would have liked for Chicola to have talked about the status of women in Brazil and the effect this has on its economy,” said senior in international relations Wilma Hernandez.

A Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University and State University of New York at Albany graduate, Chicola has served as an economist for the Brazil Investigation Commission 1979 when he first joined the State Department.

Over the past three decades, he has worked extensively with Latin America and has held positions such as refugee officer for Latin America in the Bureau of Refugee Affairs and director of the Office of Andean Affairs.

He has earned five Superior Honor Awards and two Meri- torious Honor Awards as well as the Intelligence Collector of the Year Award in 1991.

Cosponsoring the lecture, which was open to all students and faculty and held in the Grand Liberty, were the Latin American and Carib- bean Center Graduate Student Association, the Brazilian Student Club, the LACC Brazilian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida Young Professionals Club and the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and Citizen- ship Studies.

\_E-BEOAN AND PRODUCTION STAFF
So I am officially broke! Okay, not really, but I did lose my debt card for the millionth time this weekend. I only had $20 in my wallet, so I decided to make the best of it and have a low-key Sunday morning to spend less money.

I started off at the Bagel Bar Bakery located at 1990 NE 123rd St. in North Miami. From the outside, this place looks boring. It’s just a white building with the name painted on the front. But when you walk in, it looks like someone put a Jersey diner right in Miami. It’s one of the few places in South Florida where you’ll see a massive Jets flag right next to a tiny Dolphins one.

I sat down at the bar and ordered two eggs, which also came with home fries and a bagel, with a cup of coffee for $6.95.

Well, they say they gave me two eggs, but I think it was way more than that, which is awesome if you know my love for food. Big portions are always a plus.

My plate, which was a foot long and oval shaped, was covered. I mean, it’s not hard to mess up eggs, but it happens from time to time. The place was very clean, and everything looked very appetizing. This is one of those places where you get hungry just by looking at the plates of the people sitting near you.

I am not going to lie and say the coffee was good. It was no where near as strong as what I am used to. But at this point, if it doesn’t taste like dirty water, I’m happy.

I am no foodie, so I cannot tell the differences in bagels, no matter who makes them. The people at Bagel Bar say they make their bagels fresh, but I couldn’t tell.

I got my bagel toasted, so it was warm and crispy on the outside, and chewy on the inside. My one complaint is if you’re like me and like your sides of my bread with cream cheese, no matter who makes them, I hardly spent any money, which made it that much better!

Beverages

The service was decent, I could barely smother both pitchers, which is semi-priced. I thought this was kind of cool and unusual.

I got my bagel toasted, so it was warm and crispy on the outside, and chewy on the inside. My one complaint is if you’re like me and like your

I got my bagel toasted, so it was warm and crispy on the outside, and chewy on the inside. My one complaint is if you’re like me and like your

I got my bagel toasted, so it was warm and crispy on the outside, and chewy on the inside. My one complaint is if you’re like me and like your
Electorating royalty makes Washington roll in grave.

CHRIS CABRAL
Lifefix Editor

The Miami Book Fair has grown considerably within its 26-year run. In 1984, the book fair was known as Books by the Bay, but since then the event has been snowballed into the biggest literary event in the United States. But according to The Associated Press, the book fair’s budget this year had been slashed by $400,000, marking their available funds to total a little over a million dollars. While this seems like a large sum of money, the Book Fair underwent noticeable adjustments and cutbacks.

A press release from Miami-Dade College noted that the fair would increase admission from $5 to $8. Along with this, the fair will charge $10 for their “Evenings With” program, which provides tickets to and meet selected authors. Before these nightly programs were free of charge. It’s a shame that the Miami Book Fair has had to tighten its belt this time around, but with the current economy, it was inevitable. Fortunately, a number of economists (including Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke) have announced that the nation’s recession is coming to end — so we can see a bigger, better Miami Books Fair in the coming years.

Do not let these fee increases deter you from enjoying this book fair. Yes, we may be college students who can barely afford our $300 “can’t-slash-meals-at-Subway and Einstein Bros., but the Miami Book Fair Internationa is a great opportunity for students to witness Miami at its best.

The City of Miami, Miami-Dade County and other sponsors of the fair must make sure that this event is to the entire community, especially students, young adults and children.

IRIS A. FEBRES
Editor Opinion

My Mecca has finally arrived. Though the Miami Book Fair International has already been in full swing since Nov. 8, this weekend will kick off the coveted street fair. On Nov. 13, despite the Miami Book Fair International has arrived. Though the Miami Book Fair was a king and queen to rule the Modesto Maidique Campus, about the fact that FIU was electing a king and queen cannot stop the crowning of a new king and queen into abdicating the throne and freeing us from the threat of their potentially iron-fisted rule.

It’s a shame that the Miami Book Fair in the coming ceremony that glorifies such a tyrannical system. This week, students have something to say about FIU? By having a homecoming court, and none to appear to have grounds to claim a divine mandate.

Moreover, the qualifications of these prospective monarchs is questionable. While all who are vying for the crown are accomplished students, few of royal bloodlines and none appear to have grounds to claim a divine mandate.

They also appear to have agreed to being crowned through popular acclaim, rather than through birth or a violent, bloody struggle. Such a process is hardly fitting for the appointment of a king or queen.

May their rule be just and kind, and may they not ruthlessly crush their enemies like Henry VIII or Yarimar Rosa.

IVAN FLORES
Staff Writer

This summer, Central Intelligence Agency Director Leon Panetta revealed to Congress a program designed to train anti-terrorist assassination teams. Unfortunately, the program did not reach an operational phase and “never took a single terrorist off the battlefield,” said Agency spokesman George Little.

However, a recent report from the U.S. military’s Joint Special Operations University, which was established in 2000 as an institution of higher learning focused on joint special operations education, stated that the CIA did not go far enough. The CIA should have had an operational assassination force in place.

I agree that the CIA did not go far enough, and America needs an elite assassination team that capture and kill enemies of the state. The U.S. military has already assembled teams from different departments to go after high-level targets.

For example, the Iraqi militant leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who was responsible for the 2005 bombings of three Jordanian hotels, was killed after being tracked down and bombed by American forces.

While American forces are capable of tracking, capturing or killing high-level targets having a dedicated organization that operates outside of the military would allow military personnel to continue their duties uninterrupted.

“Currently the units that are responsible for tracking down, capturing or killing high-level targets have been assembled from different government agencies and branches of the armed forces. The JSOU report stated that ‘dedicated teams must be assembled, able to respond on-call’ in the event of a raid on a suspect site or to conduct independent ‘break-in and search’ operations without leaving evidence of their invasion.”

Having a centralized organization that standardizes the training that these elite units underwent would help to streamline the process of tracking down, capturing or killing these targets. By having a centralized organization the need to search for members to form assassination teams from other government agencies would not exist.

I believe that these units are a necessity that has come about because of the guerrilla warfare that insurgents and terrorist groups have been engaging in the U.S. military down in. By having specialized units, the U.S. military avoids having to fight a full scale conventional conflict with an unconventional force.

These specialized units would not only focus on terrorist groups. The JSOU report states that the units could be used in the prevention of drug trafficking, piracy, human trafficking and other forms of smuggling. Specialized units like the one described in the JSOU report are not unheard of.

During the 1972 Summer Olympics, held in Munich, Palestinian terrorists captured and killed 11 Israeli athletes. In response to the attacks the Mossad, Israel’s intelligence agency, organized a team to kill all of the terrorists that were involved in the attack.

I wholeheartedly believe that a proactive agency with the ability to gather intelligence, track down, capture or kill the leadership of these organizations is something that needs to be even be discussed; it should have already been done.

America needs a dedicated force to track down, capture or kill terrorists, drug runners, human smugglers, pirates and other enemies of the state.
WILD WEEKEND

Electro-acoustic festival could be a ‘FEAST’ for the ears

On Friday, Nov. 13 and Saturday the 14 the third bi-annual FEAST festival, sponsored by Red Bull and Culture Shock Miami, will showcase several unusual musical acts, along with guest lecturers including Juraj Kojs, Nathan Wolfe and Orlando Jimenez Garcia. Garcia is both a composer of classical music and the director of the Composition Program for the FIU School of Music.

The musical acts will consist of students playing electro-acoustic music, a combination of live and prerecorded electronic music. According to the event’s promotional materials, the event is hosted by the Electro-Acoustic Research Society at FIU, School of Music, College of Architecture + The Arts, and Council for Student Organizations. The FEAS in FEAST stands for Florida Electro-Acoustic Students.

The Festival will feature several concerts, including one on Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. and two on Saturday evening, at 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. The concerts will be held at the Herbert and Nicole Werthen Performing Arts Center, while a reception with live music will take place from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday in the Frost Art Museum.

Among the more interesting acts will be the FLEA ensemble. FLEA is an acronym for “FIU Laptop & Electronic Arts,” and the group consists of several FIU students who make music with their computers rather than conventional instruments alone.

More information on that particular group can be found on the web at http://www.myspace.com/feasресурс. For more information and tickets for the entire festival, visit http://carta.fiu.edu or call 305-348-0496.

compiled by
Chris Cabral

‘Ultra’ to feature official Miami Heat DJ

On Nov. 13 the FIU Homecoming Council, along with the Student Programming Council at Modesto Maidique Campus, will be hosting ‘FIU Ultra.’ FIU Ultra is a yearly music festival held during Homecoming Week. This year’s performances will include the official Miami Heat DJ, DJ Irie and SiriusXM radio DJ Kaeno. Admission is completely free, and the event is taking place between the Blue and Gold Gold parking garage and MNC.

Apart from Irie, performers will include local DJ Danny Dare, who, according to the Homecoming Council Web site, enjoys “all sorts of music,” and “used to play tennis.” Jorge Felix, who has been a DJ since early adolescence, will also be performing Aside from being a DJ, Felix is an accomplished sound engineer.

http://www.fiu.edu/~hc

READ THE REST OF THIS FEATURE IN YESTERDAY'S EDITION OF THE BEACON.
COMIC REVIEW, page 5

Spider-Man’s confusion over how a criminal can gain the public’s trust, or Jessica Jones’ (Luke Cage’s) wife anger at the team for giving up her husband. Bendis makes sure to spotlight not only this believable emotional turmoil that the team is going through, but also the high flying action that every superhero comic needs. Adding to both the rich fight scenes and dialogue is the style and art of Stuart Immonen’s art. He wields the ability to serve epicdefaulting on a loan, which FIU is aware about and will be taking into consideration while planning for more houses.

“As much as I could understand why housing suites would make sense, I don’t like the idea of multiple Greek organizations living under one roof. For starters, it would be harder to prevent pranks, there would be an increased chance of fights, and the secrecy that is so essential to Greek organizations would be more on outbreak,” said Jephren Perez a member of Pi Kappa Phi who is a junior and advertising major.

“I think fraternity houses are a good way for organizations to create a strong internal bond by having a common place for them to gather away from GC, but not off campus. It gives them a place to work on event planning and have meetings, without needing to go on the endless search for an available room somewhere on campus.”

In the spring another meeting for interested Greek organizations will be held to discuss the criteria for an organization to have a house. What will be talked about will be figures about how much a house would cost, how many lots are available, financing options, and how much needed up front.

Historically each organization, if interested in having a house, would have to present a business plan to present to FIU and demonstrate cash flow for the house, drawing plans that are up to code, how much an organization has in its reserves and demonstrate some type of collateral.

Suites for sororities possible

Greeks, page 5

more Greek houses on campus, where she stated that FIU is interested in doing so.

Phi Gamma Delta, aka PKE, was the first house built on campus. When FIU was built, FIU set aside spots for five lots. Since the Phi Kappa Alpha aka PKE house was built now there are three left. If there are a lot of organizations interested in having a house, another possible location would be somewhere near the track.

She also stated that FIU could change their design plan for this campus to accommodate more houses, such as moving roads.

Of course there is risks in having Greek housing such as, occupancy and organizations

GREEK LIFE!

Comic features compelling artwork

For more information, call 305-FIU-GAME or visit FIUSPORTS.com

Students get in FREE

Must show student ID at gate 5 (guest tickets $15)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2009

HOMECOMING SPIRIT PARADE

Organizations showcase their impressive floats in our FIU Parade!

WHERE: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Starting at Lot 3

FIU ULTRA!

Come dance at FIU's biggest dance party!

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Between the Blue & Gold Parking Garages

GREEK ALUMNI REUNION

Reconnect with your brothers and sisters

WHERE: 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $25-200
WHERE: Adrienne Arsht Center, 1100 Biscayne Blvd

HOMECOMING SPIRIT PARADE

ULTIMATE REMIX DJ TOUR KICK OFF FEAT. SAMANTHA RONSON

WHERE: 4:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free admission
WHERE: Dolphin Mall

BUTTER GALLERY RE-OPENING

“Sacred Offering”, a solo show by Rick Feliciano

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Butter Gallery, 2300 NW 2nd Ave

CELEBRITY CHEF SERIES

Hosted by Anthony Bourdain

WHERE: 7:45 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Between the Blue & Gold Parking Garages

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2009

FIU VS. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free admission
WHERE: FIU Football Stadium

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

LAKESIDE CARNIVAL

Celebrate the homecoming traditions with food, fun and games!

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free admission
WHERE: Us 182 & Ives Dairy

PAULY SHORE

WHERE: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $25-50
WHERE: Adrienne Arsht Center, 1100 Biscayne Blvd

PAGLIACCI AND SUOR ANGELICA

Performing live: Self & Other, Shakan Ash, Shadal & His Lakers

WHERE: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $3
WHERE: Winter Studios, 5050 NE 2nd Ave

ACOUSTIC NIGHT

WHERE: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: John Martini Pub, 2371 miracle Mile

LAKESIDE CARNIVAL

Free readings at the Miami Book Fair

WHERE: 9 p.m.
HOWNCH: Free
WHERE: Miami Book Fair

PAGLIACCI AND SUOR ANGELICA

Performances that include killer nuns with food, fun and games!

WHERE: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $25-200
WHERE: Adrienne Arsht Center, 1100 Biscayne Blvd

PAGLIACCI AND SUOR ANGELICA

How each organization to have a house.

That The New Avengers offer an eclectic mix of everything that is right in the comic book industry. Picking up this issue, or any in the current story arc, will entertain without the need of back-story or research. If you’re looking for a cheap way to enjoy the many characters that exist in the Marvel Universe, The New Avengers offers a little bit of all of them, along with an exciting story and great visual to match. Getting a pleasurable comic book fix is guaranteed with the creative team of Bendis and Immonen at the helm.

Beacon reviewers receive no free food or services in exchange for positive reviews.
Team loses season debut against No. 6 opponent

JOEY CRUZ  Staff Writer

Golden Panthers coach Isiah Thomas was happy with the emotions in his collegiate coaching debut vs. the defending national champions University of North Carolina Tar Heels.

With the media spotlight concentrating on Thomas already, he received more attention when his mother Mary had open heart surgery in Chicago. He was with her on Nov. 8 and flew to Chapel Hill the next day.

Despite numerous attempts, Coach Thomas was unavailable for comment.

Losing its four starters from last season did not stop No. 6 ranked North Carolina from dominating the Panthers in a close contest 88-72 for the Coaches vs. Cancer on Nov. 9.

Thomas was also playing under a former coach of his: Roy Williams. Williams was an assistant coach under Bobby Knight in Indiana, where Isiah played and won an NCAA national championship.

Even with Thomas as the media’s focus, Marvin Roberts led the Golden Panthers with 18 points and had four steals in the loss against UNC. He also played the most minutes with 32 in the game.

“Playing against North Carolina was a humbling experience,” Roberts said.

Along with Roberts, Antonio Watson was the second highest scorer with 16 points, six assists, a block and a steal.

Other FIU players include Marlon Bright and Tremayne Russell, both with 10 points in the game.

“Playing in the Dean Dome is what college basketball is all about,” Bright said.

Despite a tough loss, FIU did not stop No. 6 ranked North Carolina as they entered the ACC conference play.

Backup Wayne Younger tossed for 178 yards against Indiana, where Isiah played and won an

T.Y. Hilton, who will

Vote for or without McCall, a high scoring affair is conceivable as both team’s feature explosive offenses but suspect defenses.

T.Y. Hilton, who will

play despite a nagging knee injury, lit up the Mean Green in last season’s 42-10 FIU victory, picking up 135 yards on just three carries.

Coach Hilton is well aware of

Despite numerous attempts, Coach Thomas was unavailable for comment.

Losing its four starters from last season did not stop No. 6 ranked North Carolina from dominating the Panthers in a close contest 88-72 for the Coaches vs. Cancer on Nov. 9.

Thomas was also playing under a former coach of his: Roy Williams. Williams was an assistant coach under Bobby Knight in Indiana, where Isiah played and won an NCAA national championship.

Even with Thomas as the media’s focus, Marvin Roberts led the Golden Panthers with 18 points and had four steals in the loss against UNC. He also played the most minutes with 32 in the game.

“Playing against North Carolina was a humbling experience,” Roberts said.

Along with Roberts, Antonio Watson was the second highest scorer with 16 points, six assists, a block and a steal.

Other FIU players include Marlon Bright and Tremayne Russell, both with 10 points in the game.

“Playing in the Dean Dome is what
college basketball is all about,” Bright said.

Despite a tough loss, FIU did not stop No. 6 ranked North Carolina as they entered the ACC conference play.

Backup Wayne Younger tossed for 178 yards against Indiana, where Isiah played and won an

T.Y. Hilton, who will

vote for or without McCall, a high scoring affair is conceivable as both team’s feature explosive offenses but suspect defenses.

T.Y. Hilton, who will

play despite a nagging knee injury, lit up the Mean Green in last season’s 42-10 FIU victory, picking up 135 yards on just three carries.

Coach Hilton is well aware of
The Golden Panthers women’s basketball team added five new players to its roster and returned 10 to make up what Coach Cindy Russo thinks is a team with the necessary elements for creating success.

However, the team’s health is a concern heading into this season just like last season, when FIU’s depth and starting lineup was depleted early on due to a lengthy list of injuries.

STAYING HEALTHY
Forward Marquita Adley and guard Fanni Hutlassa both suffered leg injuries in 2008, but will return to this season’s starting lineup.

Russo is especially confident that Adley can make a huge difference with her inside presence.

“She is definitely in the best shape she has ever been in since she’s been here,” Russo said. “Hopefully she can be injury free this year for the first time in her life and if that is the case, I think we’re going to see nothing but greatness from her.”

Adley was limited to 20 games off the bench last season, but was able to record a double-double on two different occasions and averaged five points and six rebounds a game.

Hutlassa played in just seven contests last year, averaging 8 points before sustaining the season-ending knee injury.

The 6-foot-1 guard started in last week’s exhibition game against Nova, she totaled 12 points with two field goals from behind the arc.

On the other hand, forward Elisa Carey is currently recovering from a knee injury. She missed the team’s lone exhibition game just last week and will be out for another two to three weeks, according to Russo.

Carey is vital to the Golden Panthers’ lineup after averaging eight points and nine rebounds while ranking third in the conference for blocked shots (1.53) and fourth in rebounding just last season.

FRONTCOURT
Aiding Adley and Carey, when she becomes healthy, will be players who have been around the team for quite some time now.

At the center position, junior Maja Krajacic could be a familiar contributor after seeing playing time in 14 games last season, all off the bench. At 6-foot-4, her size could be very useful to the Golden Panther squad.

Krajacic started in the exhibition game, totaling six rebounds, four points, and three blocked shots in the 67-50 win.

Junior Liene Jekabsone will also be called upon. The 6-foot-1 forward from Latvia played in 18 games last year with a lone start against Arkansas State.

BACKCOURT
In the backcourt, junior Michelle Gonzalez will remain the starting point guard. Gonzalez ranked first in the Sun Belt Conference last season in average minutes played (37.03) and was the team’s second leading scorer with 9.3 points per game.

“[Gonzalez] definitely gained a tremendous amount of experience with the role she played last year,” Russo said. “Now we’ll reap the benefits because she’s a poised point guard. She had a good summer, and she has come back very strong mentally and physically. Her game has developed.”

Rosa leads team to 20th victory, earns 2,000th career kill at home

Yarimar Rosa knew she was close to achieving another milestone in her historic career at FIU on Nov. 11 as the Golden Panthers took on the Florida Gulf Coast Eagles.

Rosa entered the match the 20 kills away from becoming the first Golden Panther to reach the 2,000 kill milestone for her career. She left the game with 2,000 kills under her name as the Golden Panthers (27-2) swept the Eagles (15-12) in three sets.

“I didn’t expect to get the 20 kills tonight,” Rosa admits. “When they told me I got the 20 kills I was just really happy. I knew I could get it, but I wasn’t counting; I was just playing. It feels real good.”

Senior Captain Danijela Tomić: “She was amazing. This is the fourth year I’ve been coaching her and I see her in practice every day but she still does things that are breathtaking. It’s unbelievable. She gave a great performance.”

The Golden Panthers had little trouble putting away the Eagles, who barely challenged FIU for the most part throughout the match. In the third set, the Eagles tried to rally but it came short as Yarimar Rosa got her 20th kill of the match and her teammates stilled their comeback attempt.

“We did well,” said junior setter Natalia Valentin. “We stepped up and just played volleyball. This game helped us with the basics.”

When talking about Rosa, Valentin couldn’t have been happier for her teammate.

“I’m proud of her; I just love it,” Valentin said. “She deserves it, she deserves more than that. It just makes me so happy for her.”

Rosa finished the match with 20 kills and a .613 attack percentage to lead the offensive attack. Valentin added on 35 assists and nine digs of her own. Chanel Arauzo had 10 digs on the night to help anchor the FIU defense, holding FGCU to a low .04 attack percentage.

“We did what we needed to do,” Tomić said. “We wanted this game to be a tune up for FAU and then for the conference tournament. That was our goal for this match.”

The win gave the Golden Panthers their 20th consecutive victory of the season and currently stands as the fourth longest winning streak in the country.

The Golden Panthers travel to Boca Raton, Fla. on Nov. 14 to take on Florida Atlantic to close out their Sun Belt Conference schedule.

Handing the Rock: Guard Asia Wilson will have to help the guard play if the team wants to improve upon its 6-24 record last season.