Where to see the big game

ANTHONY CENTENO
Contributing Writer

On Feb. 7, Miami will be hosting the biggest American sports event of the year – the Super Bowl. This year, the Indianapolis Colts and the New Orleans Saints will be squaring off in the 44th annual Super Bowl, which will be held at Sun Life Stadium. FIU students are already making their plans for Super Bowl Sunday.

“For this year’s Super Bowl, I plan on hanging out with friends, having a barbecue, and enjoying the Saints run over the Colts,” said sophomore biology major Christopher Watkins. Barbecues and get-togethers are classic Super Bowl traditions.

If students living on campus would like to watch the game, Housing will be hosting events on game day. University Park Apartments will be hosting a Super Bowl watch party with food and drinks provided. The festivities will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the lounge of Building A. University Park Towers will also be hosting a watch party from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the lounge. Students can enjoy food and drinks while watching the game on a big screen TV. These events are not exclusive to residents only, all students are welcome to join.

However, if students are interested in going out to enjoy the game, then they’re already in the right place. Sports bars and restaurants all over Miami will become hot spots to watch the main event.

“Even if you aren’t a big football fan, you can still go out and enjoy the atmosphere,” said senior hospitality major Luis Vasquez. If sun, fun and football sound like a great combination, then one may want to check out Ocean’s Ten on South Beach. This sports bar is fully equipped with great food, full bar and big screen plasma TVs throughout.

SUNDAY, PAGE 5

Class offers in-depth study on HIV/AIDS

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

Biology of AIDS, a class offered at FIU since 1997, allows students to learn about AIDS from biological and socio-psychological perspectives.

Ophelia Weeks, Ph.D. and associate professor, thought of the idea while taking a sabbatical in 1996 during orientation. The folder contains a handbook dictating what to do in certain scenarios, which includes a contact number that corresponds with the severity of the situation.

FORUM, page 3

RENTAL, page 2

SAFETY questions addressed

PA system, emergency procedures among topics

JAYSMYN EJUOT
BBC Managing Editor

Emergency telephones, fire safety and the lack of an alternative evacuation route were just some of the issues raised during the forum of Safety and Emergency Planning held on Feb. 2 at the Wolfe University Center.

The forum allowed students, faculty and staff to voice their concerns on various safety-related issues affecting the University, with the Emergency Management Group present as a panel.

“There is no more important thing we can do than create a safe environment,” said Vice Provost Steven Moll during his opening remarks. “If we don’t, students don’t learn and we fail in our mission to educate.”

The EMG is responsible for restoring order during times of distress such as a natural disaster. The group comprises the following: EMG Assistant Director Dorothy Miller, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services Cheryl Nowell, Vice President of Academic Affairs Elizabeth Bejar; Chief Bill King of FIU Police; and Director of the Victim Advocacy Center Sharon Aunum.

Several of the concerns voiced by those in attendance dealt with communication, or the lack thereof. Staff, for example, complained about the confusion on whom to call in case of an injury or a disruptive student. 911 or FIU Police?

According to King, every Fall, faculty receive a red folder during orientation. The folder contains a handbook dictating what to do in certain scenarios, which includes a contact number that corresponds with the severity of the situation.

FORUM, page 3
I think renting books is great for those students who have a hard time paying for new ones.

Alessandro Gallego, sophomore
Computing Science

Program makes books affordable

The course is offered in the Spring and Fall semesters at the Modesto Maidique Campus and holds a maximum of 40 students. The class is usually full within the first few days of registration," Weeks said.

One group, nicknamed the "Grey Team", decided to design a magazine targeting the FIU community, specifically housing students.

"We felt it was a good way to start informing people," said senior Rachel Robles, pre-med major and one of the group's members. A hundred copies of the magazine were passed out to students in the Everglades apartments, University Park Towers and the Engineering building as well as various spots all around MMC.

The magazine displayed a series of condom advertisements geared toward college students, an interview with an AIDS victim, various HIV facts and a survey conducted on 86 anonymous students in the residence halls with questions about the disease.

Robles explained that the results "shocked" her and opened her eyes to the lack of knowledge about HIV/AIDS. The results showed that frequently, students selected the incorrect answer. Among class experiments, mandatory class lectures and discussions, the students were assigned to purchase a type of condom, ranging from intrauterine devices to various other kinds. To receive a grade, the students had to present the contraceptive method they chose.

"It was supposed to make you feel embarrassed to make your mother buy one for you or for the lady at the counter to look at you a certain way for buying this specific condom," said sophomore Karisa Falden, another member of the Grey Team.

"It made you realize why some people have unprotected sex," she added.

Falden said she was so impacted by the experience that she applied for research summer involving HIV/AIDS research.

"We feel blessed that we were able to take the class," she said. "I really want to stress that HIV is real. You interact with HIV-positive people every day of your life and that's a fact," said Falden. [HIV is not very far away, you just have to be sitting right next to you].

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MAUREEN NINO
Ass’t News Director

Cramming all night for a test may work for some students, but usually the best results come from preparation. A technique students can now learn in Biscayne Bay Campus’ new Test-wiseness workshops.

Federico Lastra, tutor and reading specialist at BCC, is the innovator behind the new workshop offered at the Center for Academic Success in Academic Building I, Room 160. According to Lastra, he just acted on what the students told him they needed.

“I talked to [Lastra] last semester about how a lot of students are nervous and don’t know how to take a test. He told me about his idea and thought it was great,” said Darya Yeroshova, a senior and psychology major.

The workshop will offer students strategic test tips that according to Lastra may be particularly beneficial for students right out of high school.

“A lot of students can’t read the information. A lot of them don’t know how to read testing questions or how to look at a multiple-choice exam,” Lastra said. “Students can study as hard as they want but if they don’t know how to read a test question they may not succeed.”

Freshman psychology major Ceryn Nemelelit agrees and believes these workshops will benefit her.

“I just got out of high school a few months ago and college is very different and I think [these workshops] will help me. The things I learned in high school are not really helping now and hopefully this will help me make a good transition into a higher level of thinking,” she said.

In the workshops, Lastra discusses strategies and skills students may use during different types of exams such as multiple choice, essay final and true/false questions.

“For multiple choice tests I teach them how to read the question and go through the answer, automatically eliminating the ones that do not apply to the question for cue words and how to organize their thoughts in relation to the question,” Lastra said.

Yeroshova also believes that although she has been taking tests “forever,” the workshop was still helpful.

“It is very informative and he actually points out tricks to help during a test. There are a lot of small tips that are very valuable, she said. “These courses help call me on my right. I don’t get nervous and if I do blank out I compose myself and start from the beginning.”

The workshops have no additional cost and according to Lastra, the Center for Academic Success is using its regular budget.

Roberta Coaches, Center for Academic Success office assistant, believes the program will be very helpful.

According to Coaches, the Invitational Scholars Club has helped promote the program and he is just the perfect person to teach this,” Coaches said.

FORUM, page 1

However, he also noted that “911 calls transfers to Public Safety,” but the extension 7-2626 links directly to their offices.

Another concern raised during the forum regarded the unsynchronized fire alarms in the connected buildings Academic I and WUC.

“If the fire alarms in WUC are going off, how do we tell the people in AC I not to come in?” said Vicky Owles, associate director of Campus Life.

Referring to the issue as “a thorn in my side,” Miller stressed the importance of cooperation by way of existing persons to redirect those who may be unaware of the evacuation.

“Take all of you to help us out,” Miller said.

Miller also stated that a PA system for AC I and Academic II offices is in the works, citing that it would be easier for people to hear that there is a fire-related evacuation rather than people leaving the building.

In the same vein as evacuation, the ongoing issue of a lack of an alternate hurricane evacuation route was brought up citing particularly rainy weather on Feb. 1, King said, “If the roadway is closed up, we are locked up. It is a true disaster waiting to happen.”

According to King, as late as last Fall, FIU Police has been in talks with the City of North Miami to rebuild and reopen the former NE 151 St. Bridge as an alternate route in the event of the flooding of NE 151 St. They are also campaigning to get a federal grant to aid in rebuilding the route.

According to Mell, the process is taking so long because city commissioners are afraid of “losing constituents” who have thus far vehemently opposed the project, arguing that the rebuilding of the bridge would cause a higher traffic volume from the University.

Even so, King remains determined to find a solution.

“It is an issue on the front burner,” he said.
China challenges United States’ domination

Alicia Montalvo
Contributing Writer

“Post your thoughts in the opinion section of The Beacon or drop by our offices at 611 College Ave. We welcome all perspectives. Email us at editorial@fi usm.com”

China’s recent rise as a global economic power has caught the United States by surprise. The country’s economic growth has been rapid, and its exports have surged, giving China a significant advantage in the global marketplace. At the same time, the United States has struggled to maintain its position as the world’s leading economic power.

China’s economic growth has been driven by its large and skilled workforce, its abundant natural resources, and its focus on export-oriented industries. This has allowed China to become the world’s largest exporter, surpassing the United States in recent years.

In contrast, the United States has struggled to maintain its economic strength. The country has experienced a decline in manufacturing jobs, and its trade deficit has grown. This has led to concerns about the future of the American economy and the country’s global standing.

The United States and China are currently engaged in a trade dispute, with each country imposing tariffs on imports from the other. This has led to a slowdown in economic growth and uncertainty about the future of the relationship between the two countries.

Despite these challenges, China remains a key player in the global economy, and its rise is likely to continue as it invests in new technologies and expands its influence around the world.

Quotation

“Why, if gays are allowed into the military, the soon-to-be-armed forces will allow all sorts of other things.”

Sandy Chambers
Republican Senator, Georgia
Miami art galleries open doors for Friday’s free art walks

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

If you’re in the mood for a little night music and some art, check out Gables Gallery Walk. Gables Gallery Walk happens on the first Friday of every month. The walk, which stretches from Douglas Road all the way to US1, gives participants a chance to check out the work of local artists for free.

Don’t look for major crowds like at other art festivals because this walk is more of a solo venture for most of the way until you hit downtown Coral Gables, where you’ll bump into the date night crowd at Miracle Mile’s restaurants.

You can start the night off at Centro Cultural Español on 800 Douglas Rd, Suite 170, about two blocks east of Ponce de Leon Boulevard. Here, you can check out the new exhibit Confluencias: Intersecciones Entre la Literatura, el Cine y el Cartel, an art display exclusive of artists from Latin America.

Next stop is Art Space/Virginia Miller Galleries on 169 Madeira Ave. Five Abstract Visions, the new exhibition at the gallery which opens Feb. 5, will display the works of Michelle Conception, Florian Depenthal, Andy Moses, Linda Tsooby and Aaron Karp. The gallery says the exhibit “offers a fascinating view of how accomplished mid-career artists approach abstraction in very different ways.”

Literature geeks and art fans collide at the H. Benitez Fine Art Gallery at 365 Akaza Ave., Suite 4. Starting at 6 p.m. the gallery will open its doors to fans of Janet Diaz Bonilla, who will be signing copies of her latest novel, Rainbow House. The novel is about Camilla Miranda, a young woman who holds a dark secret.

The book signing is in conjunction with a preview of the gallery’s new collection. Humberto Benitez works with only a limited number of monochromatic origina ls. The artist is known for clearing his studio and surroundings from all colors, then binding with the strength of a single tone. What he came up with is a series of black and white pieces that make a contrast to the colorful display of Bonilla’s Rainbow House release party.

You’ll probably be famished from the walking but hope is in sight. Once you hit downtown Coral Gables, there will be a plethora of restaurants. Step into Books and Books on 265 Aragon Ave. for a look at some art and live music, and, while you’re there, grab a bite to eat at the café where they offer everything from chilled garlic puree to red velvet cupcakes. There’s also a cash wine and beer bar available.

Gables Gallery Walk happens on the first Friday of every month. The walk, which stretches from Douglas Road all the way to US1, gives participants a chance to check out the work of local artists for free.

The American Collections sits right on Ponce de Leon Boulevard and Anahua Avenue, just a block away from Miracle Mile. The gallery has dedicated its efforts to the proliferation of contemporary Latin American art with the inclusion of some European and American artists in its repertoire as well. The gallery built its success on the principle that “the dynamic of a good contemporary gallery should be to provide the most well-rounded assortment of renowned masters and emerging talents.”

There’s a pocket of smaller art galleries next to Ponce Circle Park, which is nice for your feet or for your gas tank for those not planning to do the trek on foot. The Klara Chavarria Contemporary GALLERY, page 6
Apple Store’s biggest flaw: no return policy

The Apple App Store has completely altered the way I spend $99 cents. Apple’s mobile application directory has had its share of successes. Recently, Steve Jobs, Apple’s CEO, announced that the App Store sold 3 billion apps, an impressive feat for any mobile app catalog. The App Store’s application range has reached upwards of $70. The store’s price structure, though convenient and beneficial to developers, has completely skewed my internal calculator.

Before the App Store, I would walk into a convenience store and not even bat an eye when I dropped $3 for a bag of South of the Border Fumus and a Mountain Dew. Ah, that was the good old days. But apple stores are virtually insignificant. Sure, it’ll get you something, but not a whole lot. However, in the App Store economy, spending $3 is like buying a helicopter cop pilot. If an app costs money, it better be good. I will spend hours researching a 99-cent app, looking at screen shots and reading user reviews. Even then, my finger will hesitantly hover over the “buy now” button, weighing out how much I will be able to use the app.

But as I sit here and write this, I have to ask myself: Do I take the same time researching the Mountain Dew, something I am actually putting in my body? No. A single bottle of Mountain Dew has 510 calories, 84 grams of sugar and 110 milligrams of sodium. So it seems that I will sooner pay $1.25 for something that will most likely contribute to a future case of adult onset diabetes than 99 cents for an app for my iPhone that will arrange my groceries by budget, and then quickly put together a healthy meal plan.

So the story may have been told before. What matters here is characters, not story. It’s not a great film, but it provides much entertainment, and damn it, it’s better than watching Avatar for the seventh time.

DARKNESS, page 5

tired plot line still entertains

-DARKNESS, page 5-


tired plot line still entertains

-DARKNESS, page 5-

\textbf{Tired plot line still entertains}\\

\begin{itemize}
  \item A curious conspiracy as Craven looks into a corporation's daughter was investigating called “Northbrook.”\textbf{Craven becomes entangled in forces much larger than himself as he seeks satisfaction.}
  \item If you say you've heard this plot before, I wouldn't contend into a convenience store. This is a remake of a 1985 British television series, but because the revenge thriller usually hinges on another key points: an innocent man horribly wronged, haunted by the misdeeds and slowly moving toward a breakthrough in point of seeing the truth. What distinguishes one from the other is the acting talent behind it. You wouldn't buy this movie if it were, say, Brad Pitt, in the lead role. That's because it takes a certain type of actor to sell torment, and Gibson does it better than anyone around today. He plays so well anger and the demons that he may very well have real in translating well on screen. Gibson's savagery, honesty and direct sell this movie.
  \item Not to say that Martin Campbell is an incapable director. Campbell is one of the great action-thriller genre directors because he is economical in his direction but also intelligent. No shaky-camera setups a la Iron Man.*
  \item He knows how to set up a scene and tell a story.
\end{itemize}

It doesn’t hurt when you have one of the great character actors of this generation in the cast: Ray Winstone. Winstone plays a CIA agent who is sent to cover up information on the murder, and your eyes are always on him. You’re not sure what he’ll do or where his loyalties lie, but watching him on screen with a seeming lack of scruples bring back memories of similar Claude Rains in Casablanca. So the story may have been told before. What matters here is characters, not story.

But at the same time, the fact that the store is so limited to the black and white. Perhaps it’s because the store is so limited to the white.

\section*{SUDOKU ANSWERS}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{FRIDAY, FEB. 5}
  \item 9 1 4 8 1 6 7 2 4
  \item 4 6 5 8 1 7 9 3 4
  \item 8 1 7 2 4 5 3 6 9
  \item 2 3 6 1 7 4 9 2 8
  \item 5 9 1 2 3 6 8 7 4
  \item 3 4 7 9 2 1 6 5 8
  \item 1 7 2 3 5 9 4 8 6
  \item 7 8 6 9 5 2 1 4 3
  \item 4 5 8 9 1 6 7 3 2
\end{itemize}
Results, not recruits: the true measure of coaching success

TOWERS, page 8

who have the desired size to make immediate impacts.

The most important part of this class might just be the five guys being brought in for the defensive backfield. A trio of All-Miami-Dade first teamers Anthony Williams, Richard Leonard and Khambrick McGee, make up what Cristobal called one of the top defensive back classes in the country.

TRUTH STORY

Recruiting day is a time for heightened expectations. For every Willis Wright who looks like a can’t-miss prospect, every team likes to think their coaching staff was able to pick out 20 plus play makers that nobody else can compare with.

For all of the talk about the improved recruiting classes that Cristobal has brought in, there is still a need to see actual on the field improvement next season.

The only reason Hilton’s story is so nice for FIU fans is because he stepped onto the field and became a star.

If Wright and the rest of this class aren’t able to make the transition to the college game then all of the excitement over this class won’t mean anything.

Foundations are built with strong recruiting classes, but games aren’t won on potential.

Northwestern pipeline growing

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

FIU cornerback Anthony Gaitor has many fond memories of the times when he manned the defensive backfield at Northwestern High, but he doesn’t remember playing much with a young Khambrick McGee.

If McGee has his way, Gaitor will definitely remember him now. With FIU staring for defensive backs heading into 2010, McGee, a corner, will get another chance to share the field with Gaitor as Golden Panther next season, as he signed a letter of intent to play for FIU next year.

McGee will also get the chance to team with former Northwestern Bull teammates, Wayne Times and Kenny Dillard.

“It feels good playing with my former teammates,” Gaitor said. “I’m glad they came to FIU.”

Head coach Mario Cristobal has emphasized recruiting at the local powerhouse, which won a pair of state titles last decade. Times has been a freshman Leonard and Khambrick McGee.

When the faxes stopped coming in and the dust settled, it became clear that only half the battle was won for the Golden Panthers. The rest is left in the hands of Wright, Medlock and the remainder of the class, hoping to make it happen where it matters the most on the field.

Golden Panthers add size, skill on offense

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

You would be hard-pressed to find a fax machine in Miami busier than the one at FIU Studio on National Signing Day, as coach Mario Cristobal eagerly awaited letters of intent from athletes from across the state and country to make their way to his hands.

And as the fax machine began to churn out those letters, it became clear that FIU added pieces to the offensive puzzle that may help put Cristobal another step closer to reaching his aspirations for the program.

“We’re excited,” said Cristobal. “We’re on course to make another step toward improvement, to get ourselves back on track to where we want to be: a championship football team.”

The first step was taken when Fletcher High quarterback Jake Medlock’s fax arrived at FIU.

“We want to talk about a quarterback that’s a leader, he is that and more,” said Cristobal.

“He’s gotta continue to work on building his strength,” said offensive coordinator Scott Satterfield.

“‘He’s got good size and has a good arm on him. Once he gets here we’ll figure out what his true strengths are and we’ll utilize those into the offense.’

The big story for FIU was whether or not Mindrick, who is expected to fill the cleats of Carlos Munera. Perhaps the most satisfying transfer for FIU came from running back Jere-}

COMMITMENTS, page 8

Among them, Jericho Lee and Jordan White are incoming defensive tackles while Isac Fiance, Bryan Robinson and Jeremy Jermin will likely play defensive end.

“We went big. Jordan White is an explosive game changer and a big body that we have lacked inside for a long time,” Cristobal said.

“Outside is where I think we really get a home run with Jeremy Jermin, an explosive edge rusher with natural pass rushing skills. We were looking to get big bodies anywhere we can find them.”

With senior defensive lineman Jonas Marrrell and Justin West out of eligibility and a few losses on the offensive line, FIU needed to not only fill those spots but also upgrade them significantly.

Cristobal hopes that size will help make the defense.

“We’re looking at body types that give us a better chance to be successful on Saturdays,” he said.

“We have a tough time finding a leader, that’s the glaring need.”

“COME BACK LATER”

FIU also picked up key transfers, including former punter Josh Brisk, who is expected to fill the cleats of Carlos Munera. Perhaps the most satisfying transfer for FIU came from running back Jere-}

Transfers add depth to ‘10 signing class

After NCAA sanctions limited the team’s ability to give out a full allotment of scholarships in recent years, FIU will bring in a full class.

Besides the surprise acquisition of Wright, Medlock was pleased with the class, regardless of whose name came through the fax machine.

“It’s like being a little kid at the Christmas tree,” Cristobal said. “Is it the fire truck or a Tonka toy? You’re just grabbing faxes as they come out.”
Wright highlights class; Cristobal emphasizes size

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

As FIU coach Mario Cristobal waited to receive confirmation from committed recruits Wednesday morning, he was also hoping to add prospects to the Golden Panthers recruiting class who had yet to make a decision.

When the header on one of the pages coming out of the fax machine was from Miami Springs High, he knew good news was on the way.

That news came in the form of Willis Wright, a wide receiver that chose FIU over West Virginia in the last minute of the recruiting process.

Wright is one of 21 prospects who signed letters of intent with FIU on Feb. 3.

“We were really happy because when the header on the fax says Miami Springs, usually good things happen. What else can you say about Willis Wright? The entire country was covering his services.”

Wright, a three-star prospect according to rivals.com, had a similar signing day scenario to that of T.Y. Hilton in 2008. Like Hilton, Wright starred at Miami Springs and chose FIU over West Virginia, among other schools.

Despite those parallels, Wright has a different playing style than his former high school teammate.

“People want to say he’s the next T.Y., but he’s different,” Cristobal said. “He is an outside receiver that plays football with tremendous explosion. There is a reason Nebraska, Florida and Miami tried to come down and get him.”

Along with Wright, FIU filled glaring needs along the defensive line, offensive line and defensive backfield en route to accumulating arguably the best class in the Sun Belt Conference.

The Golden Panthers added five defensive linemen, hoping to shore up what was one of the worst defensive units in the country last season.

Wright has accolades, but production is what matters

It was déjà vu for Mario Cristobal.

Two years ago, the library at Miami Springs Senior High was the site of wide receiver T.Y. Hilton’s signing day decision to come to FIU, a decision that paid dividends for both Hilton and FIU as he has emerged as one of the top play makers in the Sun Belt Conference.

And on Wednesday, wide receiver Willis Wright was in the same library, and he had the same decision T.Y. did: Stay home for FIU, or go to West Virginia and its greener BCS pasture.

Happily for Cristobal, Wright, the first ever ESPNU 150 player in FIU history, followed the same path as Hilton.

The story of Hilton’s decision to turn down BCS schools in order to be a Golden Panther has entered into FIU lore (at least, as much as something can enter FIU lore), and maybe one day Wright’s story will prove to be similarly discussed.

But for Cristobal, who has signed on the dotted line, the only story he is concerned about is the one that takes place when Wright steps on campus.

IFU head coach Mario Cristobal introduced his 2010 recruiting class to the media in the morning and later in a public event at FIU Stadium.

OFFENSIVE PLAYERS: 8

• Two OL
• One QB, two RB
• Three WR

DEFENSIVE PLAYERS: 11

• Five DL
• One LB
• Two S, three CB

If the 6-foot-2, 205 pound wide out doesn’t make an immediate impact, there are certainly others in the class who look like they can make a more immediate impact.

With FIU’s struggles on the offensive and defensive line, there was a lot of room for newcomers from last year’s class, like freshmen Andrew Mattox, Rupert Bryan, Dave Istanich, Tourek Williams as well as JUCO transfers like Thacher Starling and Cedric Mack.

And despite the emergence of those young players, there may still be plenty of room for David Deslón and Credick Davis on the offensive line and Jeremy Jermin, Bryan Robinson, Jerricho Lee, Isame Faciane, and Jordan White on the defensive line, all of