Delays building designed with green initiatives in mind

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Senior Staff Writer

During the era of former University President Modesto A. Maidique, a building for the School of International and Public Affairs was planned, even before the school itself came together. The plan for the $23 million building, which will be the home for the school’s international departments and centers, was brought up more than five years ago, while SIPA came together as a school in the Fall 2008 term, according to Sebastian Arcos, associate director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Arcos represents FIU to the design and construction companies and has been involved with the building for three years. The funds from the building came from Public Education Capital Outlay, a state program that provides funds for the maintenance, repair and construction of public education facilities. It is run by the state legislature.

The University put the SIPA building on the PECO list many years ago, Arcos said, and the money came three years ago. The building will be called the SIPA building until the University finds a donor willing to donate either $5 million for the building naming right, or $20 million for the school’s naming right. The building is being built by Suffolk Construction Company across from Deuxieme Maison, where the school’s administration is currently located.

Architecturetonica, an architecture corporation headquartered in Miami, Fla., designed the building.

New lot expands parking options

ALEXANDER MILLER
Staff Writer

The construction of a new parking lot associated with the FIU College of Medicine has begun between the Health and Life Sciences Building and the Graham University Center Ballrooms.

According to Bill Foster, executive director of the Department of Parking and Transportation, the parking lot is being built by stimulus money to support instructional and research activities. The stimulus money has been provided by the federal government and allocated to the state for funding projects associated with instruction and research. The lot will have premium access to visitors, clinical employees and researchers that will be visiting on a regular basis.

“The mere location of the lot will lend itself to the College of Medicine and clinical activities in that area, but it is, of course, not limited to just one user,” Foster said.

The parking lot’s construction is being funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and will contain 82 new spaces and will cost approximately $800,000. The ARRA was signed into law by President Obama on Feb. 17, 2009.

The bill is intended to provide a stimulus to the U.S. economy in the wake of the economic downturn. It includes federal tax cuts, expansion of unemployment benefits and other social provisions.

Because this new parking lot will provide additional spaces to the University, there will be additional parking for visiting the area. When it initially opens, the lot will consist of metered visitor parking spaces, executive decal spaces and clinical needs spaces.

Medical school to deploy relief to Haiti

ALEXANDER MILLER
Staff Writer

In support of Haiti’s recovery, FIU’s College of Medicine is putting together faculty and staff to mobilize supplies to relieve those affected by the disaster.

According to the University, a team composed of general practitioners, obstetricians and gynecologists, advanced practice nurses, disease prevention experts, an epidemiologist, a mental health specialist, a physical therapist and a dietician are ready to be deployed to the island.

The College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, and Public Health and Social Work are collaborating to benefit the needs of the people affected by the disaster in Haiti. FIU is also working in conjunction with the State University System to coordinate and maximize its resources.

“‘This response effort is not a sprint. It’s a marathon,’” said Donald Smithburg, executive associate dean of finance and administration for the College of Medicine.

According to Smithburg, the process to get deployed is compli- cated. There is a state universities board of governors that coordinate the formed deployment of resources and assets, and the governors give order of deployment.

He added that due to FIU’s smaller staff in a relatively new college of medicine, they are not at the ideal size of a “first response” team ready to deploy and are more of a “second wave response.”

Smithburg also played a role as chief executive officer of the Louisiana State University Charity Hospital as a part of the relief efforts.
New auditorium expected to be in ‘high demand’

SIPA, page 1

and it is set for a Nov. 10 completion date, according to Arcos.

The building has a proposed silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification. This is in part due to 3 percent of the building’s daily power use being generated by solar panels on the roof.

Another part of the building that adds points to its silver LEED certification is its 10,000 square foot green roof, a roof with plants growing from it. All of the roof on top of the auditorium will be planted.

The idea for the green roof grew as the building was still in the design process and as it became more energy efficient. The green roof added an additional $1.6 million to the overall cost.

Arcos said that the green roof will give back because the energy consumption of the SIPA building will be lower than that of DM, for example.

The green roof also allows the building to use less water. It will dissipate heat from the sun and not allow cool air from the air conditioning to escape through the roof.

Arcos couldn’t say when classes would be held in the new building. Though the “major completion date,” as the contractors refer to when the building will be completed, is Nov. 10, Arcos said he doesn’t know if that means furniture or electronics will be installed in the building by then.

Arcos estimated that the people who will work in the building would be there by January of next year.

University unites to help

HAITI, page 1

when Hurricane Katrina hit the city of New Orleans. The University is coordinating a number of support events involving a wide-range of people, including students, faculty and the public.

Students, faculty, staff and alumni members collected approximately 40 tons of supplies in an immediate response to the earthquake.

“We feel extremely proud of our students. There was a sense of brotherhood,” said Sandra Gonzalez-Levy, senior vice president of external relations.

According to Gonzalez-Levy, the University is constantly looking for volunteers to assist in collecting goods and cash donations to supplement the call to action. Events called “teach-ins” involve speaking to the public about the situation in Haiti, and the first was held in immediate response to the quake during the same week.

“Everyone is very anxious to do something,” said Maydel Santana Bravo, director of the Office of Media Relations. All sociopolitical and economic implications are discussed at these teach-ins in hopes of confronting the problem.

“We wanted to give the students and those affected a way to talk about what they are going through,” said Gonzalez-Levy. “It has been very rewarding for us to be able to assist in any way.”

Gonzalez-Levy also added that the University contacted students, alumni and faculty of Haitian descent to see if they were affected by the earthquake.

The University plans on having more activities in the beginning of March and is looking for Creole-speaking volunteers for their partnership with Baptist Hospital of Miami.

The project will begin in approximately one month and the volunteers will assist in packaging supplies and feeding victims of the disaster in Haiti.

Students can still get involved with the American Red Cross and many other organizations, giving cash donations, giving medical supplies, and even water or tents.

For more information on what FIU is doing to relieve the earthquake victims in Haiti, visit news.fiu.edu/hopeforhaiti.
With plates of food on their laps students listened as University President Rosenberg made promises for a better University.

Residents of Bay Vista at Biscayne Bay Campus discussed issues with President Rosenberg during a housing forum on Feb. 8.

"We all care about the same thing: improving the quality of your experience," he said. "We have to get it right and to get it right we have to listen to you and offer you solutions wherever we can."

President Rosenberg made it a point to stress FIU’s financial difficulties.

"This is the year 2010 and we are running the University on a 1999 budget and regardless of the challenges this might present, we are here for you," he said.

President Rosenberg also emphasized on the importance of student resources and shared his understanding on the struggles of student living. He also promised to use the financial resources the University has responsibly.

"Our guarantee to you is to be as efficient with our resources as we can be. We are asking our faculty to be very careful with the use of our resources. When we find they are wasting resources, your money, we are not happy with that," Rosenberg said.

With budgets causing such stress on the University, students present expressed interest on how this would impact them directly.

"I think the housing fees we pay should cover clean floors and security," Angelora said. President Rosenberg agreed dirty floors are not acceptable. According to him, the University has over 100 buildings and hopes to improve all of them even with the limited amount of resources.

The lack of access to food was also an issue housing students agreed on.

"The [Modesto Maidique] Campus cafeteria is open later and at four o’clock the cafeteria here is closed and we’re still hungry," said junior and hospitality major Jason Davis.

According to Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones, the University is considering opening a small cafeteria next to the library, following a similar model at MMC since the library is open later than several other facilities.

Understanding the value of this forum, students also took the opportunity to not only voice complaints but also display their Panther pride.

"FIU is a beautiful university and I do feel proud to be a Golden Panther and I feel that it is an excellent university. I am excited to see FIU expand and become a more beautiful university," said first-year resident assistant Daniel Jordan, junior and math major.

MAUREEN NINO Asst. News Director

Daniel Jordan, junior mathematics major (left), addresses University President Mark Rosenberg (right) as University Provost Douglas Wartzok (center) observes during the Biscayne Bay Housing Forum held on Feb. 9 in the game lounge of Bay Vista Housing.

Self-proclaimed dating doctor offers prescriptions to love-sick students

SABRENA JOHNSON Staff Writer

The worst pick-up line ever? "I might not be the best looking guy here, but I’m the only one talking to you."

This, besides other bits of dating wisdom, comprised a lecture by David Coleman, the so-called "Dating Doctor," who spoke at the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater on Feb. 10.

The Student Programming Council invited Coleman to BBC after hearing him speak at the National Association of Campus Activities showcase.

He was impressed by his presentation and thought it would be a good idea for him to come and speak to the students," said Marie Wray, SPC Pan-African chair.

Coleman, who has a Bachelor of Science in speech pathology and a master’s degree in psychology, is known as the real-life counterpart for Hitch, the hit movie starring Will Smith, but Coleman has been doling out dating advice long before its 2005 release.

"As college students I think it’s good for us to receive this type of information. I found the advice about the long distance relationships very useful," said Malik Akanje, senior mechanical engineering major.

Coleman also played a game with the audience in which each member had to write down three words that describe their favorite animal, their favorite color, and their favorite body of water.

"The ways in which you described your favorite animal symbolized how you want other people to see you. The favorite color described how you see yourself. And the body of water describes how you view sex," Coleman said.

The lecture was followed by a question-and-answer period from the audience. There was a question asked by a student concerning a physical relationship she has been in for about three years. She wanted to know if Coleman thought it was possible for them to ever become more than just friends.

After pollig the men in the audience, all of which thought it was not possible, he offered her the following advice.

"If you ever want this guy to take you seriously, then you have to keep your legs shut. If he gets it every time he wants it, then he will have no reason to try and become more than just friends," he said.

A question from a guy dealt with how much time is too much time to spend with your mate.

"Women don’t like obsessive men. If you spend all of your time calling her she will think you don’t have a life and will go find someone who does," Coleman said.

Then Coleman gave his final words of advice.

"If you want your significant other to stop playing games with you, then let them know that you will walk away from them forever. If they stand a chance of losing you, then they will not play games with you," he said.

After the lecture Coleman distributed candy and signed copies of his book.

"It was awesome. It was very helpful because he talked about things that most people don’t really think about when it comes to dating," said Rashiba Jones, a junior communications major.
Two-semester requirement for SGA president inconsistent with statewide examples

JORGE VALENS
News Director

Aiming failing auto industries and tough times, Porsche is an auto company that, though intact, has suffered a fate far worse than bankruptcy – a loss of direction. I have grown up around cars, and I remember being a small kid and awing at any Porsche that would pass by. Over my bed is the Porsche 911 Turbo, timeless in its design and a staple for any 9-year-old boy’s room. I loved Porsches. I was young; I didn’t know why I loved them. I just knew that if I died and I knew that I would never stop. But I think the end of Porsche’s tenure, as top dog of the performance car category, wasn’t one of a shift in consumer tastes or a rough economy. Porsche’s downfall is a direct result of the company’s obvious misdirection. The 90s were the hey-day of Porsche. The 993 through 996 series were regarded as masterpieces, running contrary to the design and trends of their time and place.

However, in 1996, an early sign of Porsche’s inner conflict was released: the Porsche Boxster. The Boxster was apparently an “entry level” Porsche – a rapid departure from its high-performance siblings. I think Top Gear’s Jeremy Clarkson puts it best:

“If only life had dealt me a better hand. If only I sold one more copier and married a supermodel. Then I could have had a monopoly in deciding who is fit to be our student body president.

Many neighboring state institutions do not ask for prior student government experience in order to run for an executive position. For instance, Florida State University’s student government bylaws require no experience in office prior to running for the president or vice president position. They only require basic candidacy qualifications such as good academic standing and completion of the required courses.

In addition, the student government association at Florida Atlantic University only demands similar basic prerequisites for eligibility, which include a minimum GPA of 2.5 and at least nine undergraduates credits or six graduate credits one must be enrolled in.

While FIU and FAU have markedly relaxed requirements, other state universities take a more democratic approach. Aside from attending a mandatory informational meeting, in addition to meeting minimum standards, those looking to become the student body president of the University of South Florida must obtain 75 student signatures.

Similar rules apply to those at the University of Florida, which requires a possible candidate to acquire 300 student signatures, and the University of Central Florida, which requires a candidate receive 500 signatures from their peers in addition to GPA and credit hour requirements.

One of the many problems with the Florida system, besides the fact that the university is a Public Good, is the increase in enrollment. In the past, only a handful of students were enrolled at any college or university within the state university system.

Many families and students struggle to maintain a household while paying college tuition and related fees, and cannot afford to purchase health insurance through their employers or independently.

Our student government representatives sought to speak for all of the students body in the form of a resolution plan. “In Opposition of Mandatory Health Insurance for FIU students.”

While the Florida Legislature is still considering a bill that would make health care mandatory for all students within the State University System of Florida. Students would be required to have health insurance for enrollment at any college or university within the state university system.

Many families and students struggle to maintain a household while paying college tuition and related fees, and cannot afford to purchase health insurance through their employers or independently. Our student government representatives sought to speak for all of the students body in the form of a resolution plan. “In Opposition of Mandatory Health Insurance for FIU students.”

Supporters of the resolution presented documentation that they hoped would convince fellow FIU senate members to pass the resolution at a weekly meeting on Tuesday. A previous attempt to make the resolution was met with contention. The resolution failed in a 6-11 vote. As elected officials of the student body of the University, student government has a responsibility to interject in all affairs concerning the student body. Research is integral in securing one’s position on an issue. So the fact that supporters of the bill researched the issue and compiled evidence in support of their stand is plausible.

What, however, is unacceptable, is a student survey sampling only 56 students out of the 50,000 students in attendance at FIU, only 56 were sampled for their opinion on the ‘divisive’ issue. A sample anywhere from 10 percent (5,000) to 20 percent (10,000) of the student population would have been necessary to make an impact.

A combination of technology (i.e., e-blasts, Facebook, Twitter) and grassroots methods (i.e., quickly surveyed students’ face) would have better afforded the student senators in support of this bill more leverage. Being a representative of the student government is a responsibility that requires effort, patience and a tremendous amount of skill.

An important aspect of representing others is being able to effectively capture and utilize public opinion. When facilitated correctly, public opinion provides a platform upon which elected officials can implement change.

I applaud the members of the student government who advocated for this particular resolution. Student government act in a rather honorable fashion, as they took in the responsibility of exercising the rights of fellow peers.

In presenting referendums, it is therefore necessary to provide as much supporting documentation as possible. In an age where the Internet is rich with information, it is up to the student government and the university to make sure students are informed on any given topic.

SGA: the drop on the ball on a chance to help students

DEAN WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Health care reform became a topic of both contention and interest during the 2008 pres- idential campaign; with the inclusion of a public option, and regulating the cost of medical care as formidable options. The Florida Legislature is still considering a bill that would make health care mandatory for all students within the State University System of Florida. Students would be required to have health insurance for enrollment at any college or university within the state university system.

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Journey to Taiwan
Culture meets creativity at exhibit

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

Taiwan Discovered: In Place and Time, a new exhibit at the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum which opens Feb. 19, introduces the innovative designs of Taiwanese artists to the South Florida art scene.

The exhibit will display the works of seven artists from the diverse Taiwan art world.

“It is art quite unfamiliar to most people. Asia is receiving more attention than any other continent in the art world, and Taiwan competes for this attention and has the same quality of artists, doing the same innovative things – especially when it comes to technology. People who know Asia today will expect to see the video component, others more traditional work,” said Dr. Carol Damian, director and chief curator at the Frost. The exhibit will feature both.

The works of Chao-pang Hsu, Tsung-chen Chang, Yao Jui-chung, Tseng Yu-chin, Huang Pei-ying, Kay H. Lin and Long-Bin Chen expose viewers to the new global reality of the international art world that Taiwan contributes to.

Artists range in age from elder masters to young and innovative.

Most of the artists live in Taiwan and have achieved impressive amounts of success in their country with a number of them having international success travelling widely, exhibiting internationally, and participating in biennials and art fairs throughout the world.

The Westernization of Taiwan that resulted in strident dichotomies between the traditional and protected and the openness of free thinking impacts their careers and their subject matter,” Damian and Catalina Jaramillo, curators of the exhibit, said of the cultural views expressed through the artwork.

The exhibit consists of works of traditional calligraphy, landscapes and the extraordinary craftsmanship of painting made from slices of rock. Photography is incorporated to put all of the works in the context of the unique geological environment of the island – an island so beautiful it was originally named Ilha Formosa, meaning Beautiful Island.

The island’s beauty inspired the work of photographer Chao-pang Hsu. He captures the range of geological formations – sea and shore, mountain and gorge, ancient rock formations and placid lakes. Landscape has been a part of Taiwan’s art repertoire for a long time and Hsu’s skill brings “another dimension to its appreciation.”

Tsung-chen Chang works with “one of the most difficult and revered artistic techniques in the world.” He uses rocks, selected based on their unique textures and beauty, and slices them to reveal an image alive and organic coming from an inert rock. He creates vistas of mountains and valleys, impressionistic landscapes, and abstract interpretations of a river gorge or ancient cave that emerge as a result of “his innate aesthetic sense and extraordinary craftsmanship.”

Yao Jui-chung’s “Heaven” depicts the surreal nature of the environment of his country where there is a collaboration of traditional and international. Look for the large piece which will take up most of the grand gallery, according to Damian. He will be doing the installation himself in time for the opening on Friday.

All of the works have a sense of history coping with what Taiwan has become. You see it in Jui-chung’s work and Tseng Yu-chin’s. In his work, he questions the “weakening power of tradition, especially within the family and community, through the new..."
**The Knife's latest opera brings eerie realization**

It's always really fascinating to watch a band mature into a more developed and refined tactic of pop music bravoos, while still experimenting with aesthetics. The Knife started out within the norm of European electro-pop, flaunting hints of bubblegum from their self-titled and then walking the plank between twirled vocals and loud house music.

Once Silent Shout was released, though, they initiated a brand of mystery and intrigue associated mostly with shamans and Dracula. Also, to be honest, they just became really freakin' creepy.

One of the tracks released early was "The Colouring of Pigeons," an 11-minute epic about birds and stuff. Put a little less emphasis on birds and more on epic, and maybe the 11-minute part because, man, this is epic. Think tribal percussion, film scores and a good use of electronics to convey a foggy and mythical atmosphere.

The song starts out with a really simple drum arrangement that builds on different drum tracks throughout the beginning. It's like no Knife song you've ever heard. A drone style pattern streams with hovering volumes, and then a woman sings in operatic voice. This song doesn't sound like The Knife, but it possesses the same eerie qualities and determinants of their previous songs.

The song is mostly percussion-based and, of course, follows a story that's omitted from listening to the song by itself. But judging the song from a singular perspective, it's arguably one of the Knife's most realized and complex songs. And the opera itself is a treat to listen to, mixing most of the Knife and Mt. Sims’ career-defining sound in a cohesive, and sometimes incohesive, opus.

I'm not quite sure whether Charles Darwin had this kind of control with mood in his book, but it makes you wonder how The Knife views existence. Obviously, this is complete speculation on my part, but if we're trying to understand how the Knife operates in music and, maybe, in life, then I'd say we're hearing music made by individuals who view man's beginnings as non-comprehensive and bleak. Exploding Head is a weekly column covering all things music. Look for it every Monday.

**Collaboration with Berlin-based producer Mr. Sims and the equally cryptic Planningtorock, The Knife made an opera called "Tomorrow in a Year." Cool. What’s it about? Uh, it’s based on Charles Darwin’s On The Origin of Species.**
Medlock’s expectations high despite injury history

MEDLOCK, page 8

made to Jake. And to me, that speaks volumes about the kind of character they represent at FIU with and that said a lot to me.”

A NEW BEGINNING

With those obstacles behind him, Medlock can finally focus on his future and the new obstacles that await him this fall.

While he might not immediately feel pressure to compete right away with Mississippi State transfer Wesley Carroll expected to take the helm in his first season, Medlock has a reputation as a fierce competitor who believes, despite all his setbacks, he is ready to compete from the moment he steps on to the turf at FIU Stadium.

“I want to learn from [Wesley], but I also want to fight for the job,” said Medlock. “I’m one of those guys that doesn’t care what grade or what year he’s in. I want to be the guy. And I’ll do whatever it takes to get on that field.”

The long road that has led Medlock to FIU has been a bumpy one, and the road ahead looks to be just as challenging. Medlock wouldn’t have it any other way.

Defense contains Trojans; Florida Atlantic up next

WOMEN’S, page 8

at the 7:26 mark.

Troy cut the lead to six before the half and continued to chip away in the second half as they came within one point of tying the game when McNair scored on a layup with 12:41 to play.

Gonzalez, however, was able to come up with two big scores late in the game and then went 3-for-4 from the free-throw line with 28 seconds remaining to seal the win.

The Golden Panthers shot 45.5 percent on the night and went 12-of-17 from the free-throw line. Russo was not only pleased with the team’s effort defensively but also offensively.

The Golden Panthers held the Trojans to 29.5 percent from the field and 58.3 percent from the free-throw line.

“I’m just very happy with the way they played,” said Russo. “We played some tough defense.”

FIU will travel back home to face Florida Atlantic on Wednesday, which is one of three games remaining before the Sun Belt Conference tournament.

“We’re going to surprise these teams for our last few games,” Rodgers said.

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Rodgers takes over as team wins fifth consecutive game

**FABULOUS FIVE**

**STEPHANIE GABRIEL**

**Asst. Sports Director**

The Golden Panthers were able to claw past yet another Sun Belt Conference opponent late in the season.

After defeating Troy, 55-47, on Feb. 13, the women’s basketball team has won five consecutive games, which marks their longest win streak of the season.

“Tied at 10 with 7:30 remaining in the game, we hung in there and continued until the end,” said head coach Cindy Russo. “I give her all the credit because she was one of the main girls that brought us back into the game with her own 12-0 run. Rodgers was a do-or-die player for us.”

Meanwhile, Donette McNair had a team-high 17 points and game-high 13 rebounds for FIU, marking her sixth straight game in double figures.

“Troy had a mindset that I just wanted us to keep our winning streak alive,” said Rodgers. “I had the mindset that I just wanted us to keep our winning streak alive.”

Forward Elisa Carey also contributed and continued her dominance in the post with 13 points and 9 rebounds for FIU, and continued her dominance in the post with 13 points and 9 rebounds for FIU, and they got it,” said Troy head coach Michael Murphy to m troysports.com.

Tied at 10 with 7:30 remaining in the first half, Rodgers nearly took over the game with her own 12-0 run. Rodgers connected on two jumpers, a layup, a pair of 3-pointers, and two free throws over the next four minutes to put FIU ahead 22-10 with 4:30 remaining.

This time, however, the Golden Panthers were able to leave Troy with its fourth straight straight loss.

“We have to get credit to FIU, this is a team that we had beaten four straight times and they were looking for a big win, and they got it,” said Troy head coach Michael Murphy to m troysports.com.

“First is his leadership ability. He is a phenomenal athlete, has tremendous skills, a great brain and more,” said Corey. “He’s a great runner, a great thrower,” said head coach Mario Cristobal on National Signing Day after Medlock’s letter of intent was faxed to FIU Stadium. “He’s a great athlete, has tremendous skills, a great brain and great leadership.”

Jake Medlock, a three-star quarterback on Rivals who had received offers from various BCS schools and substantial interest from others, comes to FIU as arguably the best quarterback prospect the Panthers have ever had.

**JAKE MEDLOCK FACTS**

- Height: 6-foot-3
- Weight: 215 lbs
- 40 Yard Dash: 4.7 secs
- Other FBS offers: Arkansas

Fans got a sneak peek of what Jake Medlock could do with the football when video clips from his high school career were displayed for all to see on the projector at the FIU Stadium Club as Coach Cristobal introduced the recruiting class for the 2010 season.

“We played a little sluggish but we hung tough,” said head coach Cindy Russo. “We rebounded well and played some really nice defense.”

And he has big dreams and aspirations about his time at FIU, and the coaching staff believes that those dreams can come to frui-

“Troy had a mindset that I just wanted us to keep our winning streak alive.”

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“First is his leadership ability. He is a phenomenal athlete, has tremendous skills, a great brain and more,” said Corey. “He’s a great runner, a great thrower,” said head coach Mario Cristobal on National Signing Day after Medlock’s letter of intent was faxed to FIU Stadium. “He’s a great athlete, has tremendous skills, a great brain and great leadership.”

Jake Medlock, a three-star quarterback on Rivals who had received offers from various BCS schools and substantial interest from others, comes to FIU as arguably the best quarterback prospect the Panthers have ever had.

**GETTING NOTICED**

The FIU coaching staff first noticed Medlock during his sophomore year and then offered him a scholarship during his junior season, believing that his abilities would take him over the top.

Medlock was sold, and he gave FIU his commitment in September of 2009.

“The coaching staff has a bunch of great guys,” Medlock said. “Probably the most honest coaching staff I’ve ever met. They get right to the point and they are straight up with you.”

Fletcher coach Josh Corey, who had first met Medlock when he was a 5-year-old, has helped the signal caller grow and develop over the years and has seen him develop the tools to become a successful college quarterback.

“There are two things that set Jake apart from most kids at his position,” said Corey. “First is his leadership ability. He is a phenomenal athlete, an all-around leader that leads by example and does everything you ask for.

“The second thing is his work ethic. There aren’t many guys that I’ve coached that work harder than Jake Medlock.”

The future looked bright for Medlock until the opening game of his senior season, less than a week after he gave his commitment to the Golden Panthers, when he suffered a torn labrum in his right shoulder that required surgery and wound up cutting his high school career short and, in the process, scared off potential suitors for his services.