WEATHER

LOW: 60  HIGH: 78
Mostly Sunny

MONDAY
17. Stevens
LOW: 57  HUM: 70

TUESDAY
17. Stevens
LOW: 55  HUM: 77

WEDNESDAY
17. Stevens
LOW: 60  HUM: 78

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The Obama administration’s move to push junk food out of schools is caus- ing controversy, and why one writer is in support of it.

OPINION

PAGE 3

STATE BUDGET HEARINGS

Balls of Fury

SOPHIE CAVER

Battles over $11.6 million for FIU 2010-11

MELISSA CACERES

Staff Writer

After two weeks into the annual budget hearings in Tallahassee, FIU continues to brace itself for the final verdict on where the University will mon- etarily stand.

With the legislative session lasting from March 2 to April 30, the priorities to be brought before the legislature include the sustaining of state investment in FIU; maintaining the new College of Medicine and support for the “New Florida” initiative for the State University System.

“We don’t know yet the final numbers of what the legislature will have to make their budget,” said Stephen Sauls, the vice pres- ident of Governmental Relations at FIU. “The House [of Repre- sentatives of Florida] issued a preliminary set of numbers which said that we would have about 7 percent less in state general revenue, which is a big primary source of funding for the University.”

Sauls added that the House is “expecting about a 5 percent reduction in lottery funds for universities” and that the allo- cation of those funds is still not clear.

Throughout the 60-day session, the University is requesting $218 million in state support for FIU operations, $11.6 million for FIU 2010-11 construction projects as well as bringing to light that the faculty is now facing their fourth year without a state-funded pay raise. FIU is also pushing the legis- lature to consider “New Florida” the long-term strategy that is supposed to guide Florida’s State University System to “build Flori- da’s knowledge economy.”

BUDGET, page 2

STATE BUDGET HEARINGS

Law school hosts competition

MEENA RUPANI

Staff Writer

During the weekend of Feb. 26, the FIU College of Law hosted the Super Regional Rounts of the Jessup International Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the International Law Student Asso- ciation and the international law firm White & Case, according to Professor David Walter.

The University played host to 23 schools during the competi- tion including Emory, Duke and Vanderbilt University. FIU also participated in the competition.

Professor David Walter was a main actor in hosting these schools and explained how the competition worked.

“All teams argued four times during the preliminary rounds on Friday and Saturday, with the top teams advancing to the advanced rounds late Saturday and Sunday,” Walter said. Although FIU did not advance to the quarterfinals, Walter felt that they were well represented.

“The College of Law was represented very well at the Jessup by four second-year students. The four faced Georgia State, William & Mary, Florida Coastal and Vanderbilt in the preliminary rounds – the four delivered outstanding argu- ments,” Professor Walter said. One of the students that repre- sented FIU in the competition was Bethany Jalilachs.

Jalilachs explained that the competition used cases decided by the International Court of Justice and the Permanent Inter- national Court of Justice, its predecessor. She added that she has learned from the experience and that he is grateful for the support that students, faculty and staff gave him.

Molina’s previous running mate, Ed Proenza, withdrew from the race citing a family emergency, according to Molina. “I would not find it unfair to FIU to partake in something I cannot fulfill to the best of my abilities,” Castro said in an e-mail to the SGC- MMC Elections Board.

“it was shocking,” Molina said, describing the situation as a “coincidence of life.”

Molina was disqualified based on the section in the elections code that states that a candidate must attend mandatory informa- tion meetings, which were held on March 10 and 11. If Molina were allowed to replace his running mate, that person would have not attended one of the mandatory meetings and would be ineligible to run.

Molina submitted a grievance to SGC- MMC Judiciary, however they refused to hear the appeal.

SGC- MMC Chief Justice Luis Robayo stated that they had not heard the appeal citing that there was “no error” in the code and that the “SGC-MMC Elections Board was correct in its ruling.”

Robayo added that the appeal was read and analyzed by the five justices on the SGC- MMC Supreme Court, if two justices ruled that the appeal should be heard it would be heard by the court, however no justice moved to hear it.

Molina found the Supreme Court’s deci- sion bothersome.

“it saddens me not too even be able to go through campaigning,” Molina said. “I had a strong team, strong campaign, years of expe- rience and good intentions.”

He added that he has learned from the experience and that he is grateful for the support that students, faculty and staff gave him.

Molina is running with second time a running mate has withdrawn from Molina’s ticket.

Campaigning for SGC-MMC elections will span the week of March 22, and conclude with a live debate on March 26 in the Graham Center Pit. Students will be able to vote for their desired candidates on March 29-30.

Molina deemed ineligible to run

Jorge Valens

News Director

Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus presidential candidate Yael Molina has been disqualified after the withdrawal of his second running mate.

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BUDGET, page 1

Among its many focuses, the plan seeks to create a strategic research agenda for each state university, center and half of its funding on targeted degrees to meet regional needs, and use funds for enrollment and other system workload increases and capital construction.

The initiative suggests that the state “make a $1.75 billion investment of recurring state funds in public universities over five years.”

“Gov. [Charlie] Crist has integrated the New Florida plan into his proposed budget, recommending $100 million in additional funding for Florida’s public universities,” said President Mark Rosenberg, in his budget update sent to the University community on March 3.

“Though it is impossible to tell at this time what kind of budget the legislative process will yield, we are pleased that the governor has recognized the key role that investing in higher education plays in the success of a thriving 21st century economy,” he added.

The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, which was approved for implementation by the Board of Governors in 2006, hopes to be receiving $4 million in recurring funds for its fourth year from the state through this year’s sessions. Yet the University may have to settle for $3.7 million due to the state of the economy, according to Sauls.

“We’re expecting another tough year based on the many demands on state revenue. We’re anticipating that we may have some more cuts,” Sauls said. “Because it is a priority state initiative, we’re advocating money for the two new colleges of medicine off the top and we’ve got strong preliminary indication of support for doing that.”

During the second day of session, March 3, the University held “FIU Day in the Capitol,” in Tallahassee.

FIU was represented at the state capitol by about 50 leaders from the Board of Trustees, Board of Directors, President’s Council, Student Government Association, Alumni Association and University administration. Throughout the day, they were able to meet with more than 40 legislators.

For more information on the state budget hearings, visit government.fiu.edu

Sauls expects ‘another tough year’
Residents satisfied with campus safety

MELODY REGALADO  Staff Writer

Although some students have expressed concerns over security on campus, the majority of Bay Vista residents at the Biscayne Bay Campus say they feel safe. University president Mark B. Rosenberg stressed the importance of safety on campus during the Bay Vista Housing forum held last month. Izabel Angelova, a junior economics and international business major, raised her concerns about the safety of campus residents, particularly during housing renovations. She asked why repairs were not done year-round if the means were available, rather than going through “a month of everyday inconvenience” when renovations began promptly before Rosenberg’s visit. She said unauthorized people walked around the building, which she felt was unsecured and accessible to anyone during that time.

“I think part of safety is having a secure building,” said Angelova at the forum, held Feb. 9. “I think the housing fee that we pay can cover a secure building.” The University’s housing Web site, housing.fiu.edu, provides information about emergency evacuation and lockdown, but no mention of the security and safety offered to student residents under normal circumstances.

According to the 2009-2010 Campus Security Report and Safety Guide, a total of eight crimes were reported in the residence halls at FIU from 2006-2008—seven were for burglary and one for forcible sex/rape.

The same report states that an additional 29 crimes reported in “other areas” at FIU include burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, non-forcible sex offenses, robbery and aggravated assault.

One of the University’s safety measures involves the use of Public Safety patrols 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“When the University closes at 11 p.m., our main concern is housing,” said Jesse P. Scott, captain of the University Police Department. In housing, each resident has a key to the building and guests must be accompanied by a resident at all times. They are buzzed in through a speaker outside of the door and must wait for their resident host to sign them in downstairs.

Front desk staff holds on to a visitor’s photo identification until he or she signs out.

“If a visitor comes and asks for someone’s number or to see them, the front desk won’t give any personal information without permission first,” said Davon Johnson, a sophomore journalism major.

According to Johnson, although the police don’t come inside the building, he sees them patrolling outside and generally feels safe.

“The rest of campus is really dark, but I feel safe around housing,” said Brad Bachew, a freshman hospitality management major. “You’ll see a cop parked outside the building at any time.”

University Police Department also offers free services by request, such as fingerprinting, special event security, and crime prevention courses and seminars.

One of these courses is the Rape Aggression Defense Program, a self-defense program open to women to learn different techniques to protect themselves against an attacker.

“I think students should feel very safe at FIU, but they should never take their safety for granted,” said Cathy Akens, assistant vice president of Student Affairs.

“All of us, as members of the University community, have a responsibility for the safety and well-being of one another.”

Students can contact University Police with any questions or concerns at 305-348-2623 or 305-919-3559.

Annual wedding exhibition for brides-to-be returns to campus

MELODY REGALADO  Staff Writer

The home of the Golden Panthers is a place to learn, live and grow, and also to tie the knot.

The Kovens Center at the Biscayne Bay Campus hosted its third annual Wedding Gallery on March 11 with 300 guests in attendance.

Brides-to-be, along with their families, friends and future grooms were greeted with drinks while they browsed the tables of over 20 of the center’s preferred vendors. They showcased samples of their work for that special day, including catering, gowns, decor, music, photography and more.

Tables were set up to display a variety of different themes and arrangements for couples to choose from, whether they want basic packages or high-end deals.

They enjoyed food samplings, salsa lessons, and registered to win prizes ranging from hotel stays to discounts and limo rides to tiaras.

The ballroom at the center accommodates up to 300 guests and offers 5,500 square feet that “you could transform into anything,” said Jean Harris, director of the Kovens Center.

A 10,000 square foot outdoor terrace also provides a scenic view of Biscayne Bay, where many couples choose to take their vows.

“There are plenty of hotels that overlook the water, but we offer privacy and free parking,” said Harris. “We are also extremely flexible and offer competitive rates.”

The Kovens Center hosts around 20 special events per year, such as weddings, birthdays and retirement parties. Discounts are also available for FIU faculty, staff, and members of the Student Alumni Association.

The Kovens Center offers internships and jobs for students interested in event planning and marketing.

“It’s a great hands-on job,” said Magena Pichardo, an alumna from the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management who works at the Kovens Center. “You actually get to experience what you learn in class.”

Current interns also benefit from being able to directly collaborate with event planners and organizers.

“It’s a good experience if you like events,” said Andrea Rumble, a graduate hospitality management major who works as a client services representative at the Kovens Center. “You get to see how everything gets put together, start to finish.”

In this role, she assists in coordinating events along with Nathali Carroll, a senior hospitality management major who-aspires to work in the hospitality suites at Yankee Stadium.

“It’s a great opportunity to learn the basics of putting an event together to work your way up to managing bigger events,” said Carroll.

For job and internship opportunities, Harris can be reached at 305-919-5647 or harrisj@fiu.edu.
Candidates should keep accountability, transparency among their top priorities

Coverage of the Student Government Association has been a primary focus for The Beacon over the past two years. During this time, the board noted several issues that persist within the governing body which should be addressed by the next generation of student leaders who today begin their campaigns.

Among the most pressing issues that candidates should make a priority is supporting a new, lasting SGA constitution.

First Lady Michelle Obama has declared war on obesity. Responding to statistics claiming that the rate of obesity has doubled since 1980, Mrs. Obama’s strategy aims to remove junk foods from school cafeterias, replace high-calorie and sugary items with healthier choices.

Food consumption, especially junk food, has a significant impact on schools with the shifting dynamics of what it’s like to grow up in the 21st century. The time when students walked home from school and didn’t drink sodas with meals has long since passed.

With vast amounts of technology available today, people no longer have to wait. Information is instantly at our fingertips with smartphones, credit cards speed up consumerism, and school vendors are oftentimes an integral part of school programs – like athletics and music.

When children spend eight-plus hours in school each day, with only one chance to have lunch, they resort to snacking on these convenient food items. Cafeterias and fundraising vendors are also sources of non-nutritious snacks.

According to The New York Times, “the administration recently proposed spending $1 billion more each year on the $18 billion meal program in order to provide children with healthy food choices. This can possibly crimp the already strained budgets. The bill would exempt bake sales, parties and other occasional offerings of sweets.”

The State of Israel is the only true democracy in the Middle East and has been since its establishment in 1948. The Israeli government gives all its citizens, including Palestinian Arabs (whether Christian or Muslim), more rights than in any other country in the region. These include the right to vote, as well as the right to freedom of religion and expression among others. Women and minorities enjoy equal rights and have more opportunities than in any country in the Middle East. Palestinian Arabs serve openly in the highest areas of Israel’s military and government (including the Supreme Court and Legislature); they are able to form political parties.

Recently, an FIU student organization has made some very bold accusations against Israel. Although we can play the same game and use their tactics, we will not light fire with fire and degrade our organization to those levels.

Instead, we believe that through intelligent dialogues with students along with exposure and education to the facts concerning the Israeli-Arab Conflict and the U.S.-Israel relation, we can further build our efforts – all while working together.

The government has the Constitutional responsibility to protect its citizens. One of the best forms of protection is through education. By teaching the nation’s future generations to eat healthy and not succumb to the disease of obesity, millions could be in better health than the current generation.

However, the path toward better health for America is complex. Eliminating junk food from schools is easier said than done. Junk food sources like vending machines and school vendors are oftentimes an integral part of school programs – like athletics and music.

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The time when students walked home from school and didn’t drink sodas with meals has long passed.

CONTACT US

Send your letter to the editor by hand or email to the SGA assembly or drop by student affairs office at 2456 SW 17th St, 3rd Floor with your telephone number, name, major and year.
Virtual gallery enhances museum-goer’s experience

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

There’s plenty to look forward to at the Frost Art Museum Wednesday during this month’s Target Wednesday After Hours, when the museum unveils the Knight Foundation Virtual Gallery.

The virtual gallery will give visitors the opportunity to tour the gallery, focus on individual objects and access information and links about pieces from the museum’s permanent collection.

The multimedia software is an educational project that allows visitors to be curators of the collection for a day. The software is made for visitors of all ages and art backgrounds.

The project allows the implementation of creative technical solutions to the exhibition’s complexity and enhances the experience for visitors.

The Virtual Gallery Project will engage visitors with two interactive virtual gallery kiosks with touch-screen located in the permanent collection galleries.

It will present timelines, maps and enhanced text labels based on a multimedia system using the most recent technological innovations to give more insight and information to each piece’s meaning and creation.

The program will create the opportunity for educational projects and other virtual experiences for students, visitors, curators and museum studies.

The Frost Art Museum’s Permanent Collection offers a variety of art from all over the world including Africa, South America and Asia. The attention to the human figure in the collection emerges as a particularly significant aspect of all artistic endeavors throughout time and the virtual gallery will allow for further explorations.

Through the grant from The Knight Foundation, museum visitors will be able to experience the objects in our collection and the virtual gallery will serve as an entertaining and educational tool,” said Carol Damian, director and chief curator.

Along with the virtual gallery, this Target Wednesday After Hours event presents Aesthetics & Values 2010 and Wunderlust.

Aesthetics & Values 2010 is an exhibition and seminar taught by artist and Honors College fellow, John Bailly.

The seminar examines the role visual art plays in the social and cultural dialogue about controversial issues; how artists have challenged or enforced authority by creating new aesthetics; and how art is being used to initiate, accelerate, or combat social change.

This year’s seminar includes artists Bhakti Baxter, Xavier Cortada, Guerra de la Paz, Richard Haden, Bert Rodriquez, Gerry Stecca. TM Sisters, Frances Trombly, Wendy Wischer and Ricardo E. Zulueta.

Aesthetics & Values 2010 is organized and curated by Honors students. Wunderlust, the Master of Fine Arts student exhibition, is a presentation of a series of works produced by Jason Galburt, Patti Layle and Kim Yantis – the MFA class of 2010 at FIU’s School of Art and Art History done during their tenure at FIU.

Target Wednesday After Hours is the love child of the Frost’s and Target’s idea to give visitors a different look at exhibitions. The event gives visitors the chance to meet contemporary artists and engage with controversial art, live music, talks, films, dance, poetry slams and performance art.

It provides an excellent opportunity to meet and socialize with other people interested in the arts while learning more about the museum, exhibitions and artists. The events are free and open to the public and take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. one Wednesday each month.

THE BEACON INTERVIEWS: RAYMOND DE FEITI A, ANDY GARCIA & DOMINIK GARCIALOREDO

Actors reveal how City Island got started

STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

There have been a few movies that gave moviegoers a glimpse into the lives of dysfunctional families. Academy Award-nominated actor Andy Garcia (Ocean’s Thirteen) lends an all-star cast that includes Emmy-winner Juli Ann Marguiles (The Good Wife) and Oscar-winner Alan Arkin (Little Miss Sunshine) in his latest delve into this realm, City Island.

The film is about the Rizzo family, a dysfunctional family that has each member hiding secrets from each other including a New York corrections officer (Garcia) with a secret desire to become an actor and his daughter (Dominik Garcia-Loredo) who has become a stripper after being suspended from college.

The Brown had a chance to sit down and talk to Andy Garcia, Dominik Garcia-Loredo and director Raymond De Felitta before City Island made its Florida debut at the 2010 Miami International Film Festival in the Gusman Theater for the Performing Arts.

De Felitta said he wrote the screenplay for City Island a few years ago and he tried for a long time to get the movie made.

“For a long time trying to do it, my agent sent the script to Andy because we are represented by the same agency and he liked it.” De Felitta said.

De Felitta asked Garcia to help him get the movie made and Garcia agreed to help as producer.

GARCIA
DE FEITI A

CITY, page 6

CLASSICS, page 6

MODERN CLASSICS

Documentary successfully conveys human advancement

For All Mankind is the biggest film ever made with one of the grandest scopes to ever appear in cinema. The budget was in the tens of billions, with a large ensemble cast chronicling the voyage of a lifetime: man’s journey from the Earth to the moon.

Yet there are no special effects, no miniature models or fake pyrotechnics (unless you’re a conspiracy theorist). Taken from footage held by NASA and filmed by astronauts during their voyage to and from the moon, For All Mankind is a documentary unlike many; the definitive document of the greatest technical achievement in the last half century.

The voices narrating are many: some with a more country spin, others cool and collected, others breaking out in excitement as they recount their experiences.

Images unfold in front of your eyes: floodlights illuminating a dark Florida night, an imposing Saturn V rocket with thousands of workers surrounding it.

As one of the astronauts recounts, “I had the only window at this point, and I looked out, and de goven if the moon wasn’t visible in the day light right straight out the top of the window. I know they’re doin’ their job right because the moon’s right straight ahead and that’s where we’re pointed and they’re gonna launch us right straight to this thing.”

Images of large rockets lifting slowly in a fiery streak, men walking in space, Earth growing ever so smaller in the windows of the spacecraft – it’s the stuff of science fiction made into fact.

You don’t see their faces as they speak and no attempt is made to even identify whose voice belongs to which respective astronaut.

It doesn’t matter.

Al Reinert (screenwriter of Apollo 13) is credited as the director of this film, yet an equal claim can be made by Alan Bean or David Scott, the men responsible for taking the images, whose footprints still remain on the surface.

But, this doesn’t matter either. This is a film about the collective with no individual voice or testimony overpowering the other.

It is, in essence, a collage of visuals and thoughts, as pure a film as can be created about man’s journey to the moon.

For All Mankind is a collage of the greatest technical achievement in the last half century where every moment is a step forward in human advancement.

It is, in essence, a collage of visuals and thoughts, as pure a film as can be created about man’s journey to the moon.
Andy Garcia describes his acting roots in Miami

**Film provides objective perspective**

**CLASSICS, page 5**

The climax comes not in the moon landing but in the visuals of Earth from another body. One astronaut noted that, as he first saw the Earth rise while orbiting the moon while seeking to discover a new world, he had discovered his old world: a blue marble surrounded by nothingness.

Modern Classics is a bi-weekly column reviewing modern day classics in film. Look for it every other Monday.

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**WIN UP TO A $2000 SCHOLARSHIP!**

**THE ROY LIKINS SCHOLARSHIP**

Scholarships valued up to $2000 will be awarded in both undergraduate and graduate categories by the Florida Section American Water Works Association.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must have attained college credit hours, have a minimum of 3.0 GPA based on a 4.0 system, and must be pursuing a degree related to the drinking water industry in a Florida college or university.

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**ADDDED VALUE:** All applicants receive 1 year free student membership in The American Water Works Association, the authoritative authority on drinking water health, science, engineering and management.

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**THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS**

**MAY 17, 2010**

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**Andy Garcia and Julianna Margulies play husband and wife in the upcoming City Island.**

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**NASA launched 13 Saturn V rockets (pictured above) between 1967 and 1973**

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SPRING BREAK SPORTS REPLAY

Henry racks up accolades

BASEBALL

Jabari Henry had a great start to his spring break. The freshman outfielder accumulated an array of recognition for his efforts in the week ending on March 14. Henry was named National Hitter of the week by Louis-ville Slugger/Collegiate Baseball News, named to the College Baseball Foundation’s “National All-Star Lineup,” and came away with College Baseball Insider’s award for National Player of the Week.

In addition, Henry was the No. 1 fielder in the nation for his efforts in the week ending on March 14. Henry had a .333 batting average, 14 hits, 6 runs scored, 6 doubles, 4 home runs, 20 RBIs, and 2 stolen bases in five games.

SOFTBALL

After winning three of four contests over the weekend of March 12-14, FIU dropped three games in a row to ranked opponents. On March 16, the Golden Panthers lost two contests to No. 19 Florida State, and on March 18, lost to No. 5 Alabama.

Playing nationally ranked FSU and Alabama was a huge test for the Golden Panthers, who entered with their best start through 23 games (18-5) in the program’s history.

FU, however, was unable to get its offense going against the Seminoles as they dropped two games by scores of 8-3 and 7-2.

The performances in the circle were also uncharacteristic for FIU.

In the first game, senior pitcher Kasey Barrett allowed five earned runs in 4 1/3 innings of work after not giving up a single earned run since Feb. 27 against Western Kentucky.

Similarly, sophomore Jennifer Gniadek gave up seven hits, five earned runs and four walks in the second game to earn her third loss of the season.

The struggle to upset a nationally ranked team continued against the Crimson Tide. The Golden Panthers took a 1-0 lead in the top of the fifth inning but Alabama squared it with two runs in the bottom of that inning to make the final score 2-1.

GOLF

The Golden Panthers tied for a fifth place finish at the Northern Migration Invitational on March 16-18, after a rally from short in the final round of three.

In a field of 19 teams, FIU tied for fifth with Nebraska by shooting 916 (+52) for the series, and placed behind East Tennessee State, Minnesota, Idaho and Texas, who won the event with a stellar score of 895 (+31).

Heading into the final round on March 18, the Golden Panthers were tied for sixth, but jumped Kansas, who stumbled all the way to a 12th place finish on the final day.

FIU could not close ground on the top four teams, however, as they finished firmly in the same spot they were in after the second round.

BELLS OF MIAMI

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Without the name, they [University of Miami] are just another tennis team, and we must treat our matches as such.

Melissa Applebaum, Head Coach

TENNIS: FIU 4, MISSISSIPPI STATE 3

Team looks to defend Sun Belt title following tough road trip

SPENCER MANLEY

Staff Writer

Following a challenging road trip, the Panthers have won five of their last six matches, most recently defeating Mississippi State 4-3 on March 20.

“I told my girls in January that this is when I wanted them playing their best tennis,” said coach Melissa Applebaum after the victory.

Just a week prior, March 13, FIU took down No. 24 Yale 4-3, beating their first nationally ranked team since Jan. 29 against Southern Methodist University.

“A win is a win,” said Coach Applebaum. “I think people forgot that we were ranked No. 27 earlier in the season.”

FIU’s own nationally ranked, No. 84 Liset Brito obliterated her opponent in singles competition 6-0, 6-0 against Mississippi State.

She and her partner, Priscilla Castillo successfully routed their challengers 8-1 in doubles competition. Castillo beat her opponent 6-1, 2-6, 6-1, making this her first singles victory in three matches.

Brito and Castillo are 10-4 and 10-5 respectively this season.

“We’re just looking forward to the Conference Championship because we have to defend our title from last year,” Castillo said.

With only three games left in the regular season, the Panthers are looking to close out strong and head into the Sun Belt Conference Championship, commencing on April 23.

The Panthers may potentially face No. 13 University of Miami, who defeated the

Panthers on March 10, 7-0.

“It’s not about confidence,” said Coach Applebaum of the Hurricanes. “Without the name, they are just another tennis team and we must treat our matches as such. If we focus more on our strengths and emphasize them during the match then we can defeat anyone.”

Without the name, they [University of Miami] are just another tennis team, and we must treat our matches as such.

Melissa Applebaum, Head Coach

TENNIS

The Golden Panthers tied for a fifth place finish at the Northern Migration Invitational on March 16-18, after a rally from short in the final round of three.

In a field of 19 teams, FIU tied for fifth with Nebraska by shooting 916 (+52) for the series, and placed behind East Tennessee State, Minnesota, Idaho and Texas, who won the event with a stellar score of 895 (+31).

Heading into the final round on March 18, the Golden Panthers were tied for sixth, but jumped Kansas, who stumbled all the way to a 12th place finish on the final day.

FIU could not close ground on the top four teams, however, as they finished firmly in the same spot they were in after the second round.

Berkowitz earns first saves of season

BASEBALL, page 7

“Af ter Jabari Henry got things going for FIU with a single to left field, Jeremy Patton hit a high fly ball that floated over the left field wall for a two-run homerun to put the Golden Panthers on the board in the first inning.

“You want to start good and you want to end good,” Patton said. “We started good tonight and we need to carry that into tomorrow.”

But the Trojans struck right back when T.J. Rivera stroked a hanging breaking ball from Scott Rembisz with two outs to tie the game at 2-2.

Garrett Wittels gave the Golden Panthers the lead in the third inning with an RBI single over third baseman Chase Whitley to drive in the go-ahead run.

It was a pitching duel from there on out as Rembisz and Trojan ace Andrew Dickinson were going back and forth until the seventh inning, when Dickinson ran into trouble and was pulled from the game.

With two outs and the bases loaded, a passed ball allowed Jabari Henry to score from third base to add an insurance run for FIU.

Rembisz turned in a strong performance for the Golden Panthers, striking out 10 Trojan batters while walking only three in 6 2/3 innings on the mound to earn his third victory of the year, improving his record to 3-2.

“He threw a good ball game,” Thomas said. “That’s Scott Rembisz right there.”

Eric Berkowitz came in to relieve the senior right-hander and ran into trouble in the eighth, putting the tying run on second base with one out.

Berkowitz got out the jam, however, striking out two straight batters to end the inning and then shut the door in the ninth to earn his first save of the season.

The Golden Panthers were led by Paula Hurtado (+9) and Christina Marin (+10). Hurtado, a native of Colombia, finished in 13th place on the event’s individual leader board to pace FIU.

FU will take the course at the Georgia State Invitational today in Atlanta, Ga.

TENNIS

Liset Brito was named the Sun Belt Conference Women’s Tennis Athlete of the Week for the week ending on March 14.

The junior, who is ranked No. 84 in the latest ITA polls, has a 5-2 singles record and a 4-3 doubles record over the past seven matches.

Compiled by Jonathan Ramos and Stephanie Gabriel.

Vietnam Live/For Beacon Photo

Freshman Jabari Henry burst onto the national scene with his blistering 9-8 week that included five home runs, two of them grand slams.

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Melissa Applebaum, Head Coach

Tennis
SOFTBALL: FIU 3, TROY 8; FIU 10, TROY 2

It was a race to the finish as the Golden Panthers and the Trojans exchanged the lead numerous times throughout the middle game of their three-game series on March 20.

FIU managed to come out on top with a late-inning spurt to keep the Golden Panthers undefeated in conference play going into their final game on March 21.

Corey Polizzano started on the mound for FIU and Troy countered with starter Tyler Ray and both were locked in a metaphorical staring match, cruising through their first three innings on the mound.

Polizzano blinked first in the fourth, giving up three runs after loading the bases with nobody out.

Instead, the Golden Panthers would take the lead on sacrificial fly from Mike Martinez and Garrett Wittels.

“Troy took the lead with another home run in the eighth but could not hang on as the Panthers took the lead on sacrifice flies from Mike Martinez and Garrett Wittels,” said Eric Berkowitz.

The Trojans down in order to secure his second save of the season and the Panthers’ fourth consecutive victory.

FIU 4, TROY 2

Both teams meeting at FIU Baseball Stadium were known for their potent offenses and for putting up runs on the scoreboard.

But no one would have guessed after what became a chess match between the pitching staffs for FIU and Troy.

The Golden Panthers were able to come out of it with a 4-2 victory over the visiting Troy Trojans in their first Sun Belt Conference matchup of the season on March 19.

“Troy is an extremely well-coached team,” Coach Turtle Thomas said. “Every game we have against them seems like it’s a one or two run tight ball game every single time. We’re two very equal clubs, it seems to me.”