Library helps Haiti relocate local archives

ORLANDO AVELLANEDA
Contributing Writer

After a 7.0 magnitude earthquake ravaged the island nation of Haiti, the humanitarian efforts united around the world to help rebuild it. But the Digital Library Of the Caribbean sought to rebuild something else: their information. The dLOC, a coordinated effort of experts, through The Protecting Haitian Patrimony Initiative, are helping the Haitian community return to their regular lives. While others donate food, water, medicine and other immediate first aid needs, the dLOC, through the initiative, is focused on saving the four largest patrimonial collections, consisting of three of the biggest libraries and the national archives in Haiti. The saving of these four collections is a very important step in the recovery and future of a country that has been a victim to several disasters.

“We are helping Haiti protect their past while planning for their future,” said FIU Dean of Libraries Laura Probst. Brooke Wooldridge, Project Director of the Everglades arena, is looking to make long-term improvements that need to be improved and are looking to make long-term improvements that will not only serve athletics but also the other events that are held in the facility,” Berg said. “We are dealing with old arena limitations and no lower level concourse, which hinders the traffic flow. We have unique things to consider when it comes to those limitations.”

Committee chair Jim Wussenhof said that Gould Evans Affiliates were the former voting system provider, Acceleration, caused problems for the University during last year’s SGA and Homecoming elections. Because of this the University decided to leave Acceleration and began working with Votenet.

To prevent the technical difficulties that plagued last year’s student government elections, Student Government Association is moving to a new voting system.

The former voting system provider, Acceleration, caused problems for the University during last year’s SGA and Homecoming elections. Because of this the University decided to leave Acceleration and began working with Votenet.

However, as of March 22, it is still unclear if Votenet will be ready in time for the general elections taking place March 29 and 30. The contract wasn’t finalized until both parties, the University and Votenet, came to an agreement, and that wasn’t until March 19.

The contract was reviewed by SGA and the University’s Purchasing and Services Department. It went back and forth between both parties several times according to Jose Toscano, SGC, at Modesto Maidique Campus advisor. That process delayed the contract’s finalization.

An example was that Votenet said this would be a three-year contract, and Toscano said they didn’t want that.

“What if after Homecoming we don’t like the service and wanted to change it before the next elections?” Toscano said. “We wouldn’t have that opportunity.”

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Documents vital to function of country and its history

LIBRARY, page 1

Coordinator of the dLOC, which is operated out of the University’s Latin American and Caribbean Center, was recently in Haiti assisting in the effort to preserve these resources.

The goal of this effort is to protect these collections from being ruined by the debris and rubble caused by the earthquake.

“As a result of the earth- quake and years of operating without sufficient resources, the cultural patrimonial collections in Haiti now face a great risk of being lost to future students and scholars,” Wooldridge stated.

These collections stem from the Eighteenth to the Twentieth century and include rare books, periodicals, photographs and other literary works that are essential to Haitian culture and history, according to Wooldridge.

The collections include important information that date up until the formal ending of dictator- ship in 1986, and contain key elements in deter- mining solutions for current economic, political and social problems in Haiti.

“As Haitians in Haiti and the Diaspora, interested scholars and policy- makers worldwide continue to work to understand how the country has developed and the best course of action for the future,” Wooldridge said. “It is imperative that they have access to these important collections.”

Other than the reasons of preserving the collections for future students and scholars, these collections also contain important documents for daily operations of the country.

Public documents such as birth and death certificates and other documents that are crucial to daily life and government operation are at risk of being lost.

“The immediate goal is to retrieve, restore and send the documents to a safer location away from the current hazardous elements. And on a more long-term goal would be to digitize these documents for future use,” Probst said.

“Imagine trying to apply for a passport and there is no record of your existence.” Probst said, expressing the importance of this initiative.

The Protecting Haitian Patrimony Initiative is made possible through the collabora- tion of many different organizations.

Although specific orga- nizations, such as the Haitian Studies Association and the Collaborative Initiative for French North American Libraries, a sub-group of the center Center for Research Libraries have shown support.

The initiative has also been in close contact with representatives from both Duke and Brown Universities.

“Many more options to reach out to relevant partners and organizations will be identi- fied and documented,” Wooldridge said.

“New voting procedure offers more options

They did research on different companies and decided on Votenet based on its cost and the service offered. Toscano said in his talks with Votenet both his and students’ No. 1 concern was security.

“The parameters we made sure they had on their end were no double voting or misusage of passwords,” Toscano said.

Each student is allowed to vote only once per election. Only two administrators are allowed to look at the polls while people are voting and Toscano stressed that the Elections board expected to participate pending the report.

The problems students experienced last year during student government elections were not attributed to Votenet. The immediate goal is to retrieve, restore and send the documents to a safer location away from the current hazardous elements. And on a more long-term goal would be to digitize these documents for future use,” Probst said.

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Justice Dil ready to ‘take care of home’ if elected

MAUREEN NINO
Asst. News Director

Ready to be the students’ voice, Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus Justice Tanha Dil promises to take action if elected vice president.

“I will be here to take care of home [BCC]. I will not only be an advocate for our school,” said Dil. “BCC has an individual feeling and I can cater to our needs. I want to take it further.”

Dil, a student ambassador and public relations major, pushed back her graduation hoping to be elected and make change for students during the coming semester.

As an active student in the University, having a full work load as a graphic artist and office assistant in the Campus Life and Orientation office, vice president of the Muslim Student Association at FIU, public relations coordinator for the Indian Students Association and as a volunteer at Salah Tawfik Elementary School, Dil feels she can represent students and offer them what they need: experience.

“I can cater to our students and get them excited,” she said. According to Dil, she was not always involved and understands why commuter students may lack interest.

“I was never in the school and complained all the time,” Dil said about her early years in the University. “But I am taking a stand and will not be that person anymore. I want to fix the problems. I do not want to be that side line.”

Dil showed her determination to take action during her current role as justice at SGC-BBC and reaching out to students.

“As justice, I was very involved in all the events SGA had,” she said. As vice president, Dil aspires to focus on several student issues, from new hand dryers in the bathrooms to proper campus representation.

“We offer some great programs on this campus, but we never get shown or represented properly. What about us?” she said.

Dil hopes to shine some light on campus accomplishments, such as the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management’s South Beach Wine and Food Festival and programs in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, in addition to providing more attractions on the “sister campus”, the Pembroke Pines Center.

“We need to reach out to them,” Dil said about the commuter students at the Pines Center. Dil’s priorities are the students and creating a “greener University” by minimizing the amount of flyers distributed and advocating recycling around campus.

Additionally, she hopes to create stronger foundations with campus clubs and organizations and create routine meetings to view progress.

“Trust and communication are key,” she said. Dil plans to focus on opportunities in the SGC-BBC administration and occupy positions with knowledgeable and passionate members who “join the club for more than a shirt or a party.”

“We had a full council that went from 20 to seven and that is disappointing,” Dil said about the current senate. “I believe we wanted more of a body count. A full council represents nicely but is not always effective. I rather have things done than have a body count.”

To solve the problem, Dil suggests a more detailed interview process and in-depth explanation of SGA members’ roles and responsibilities.

“I really need to know what you are bringing to SGA as an individual because you not only represent SGA but also in the school and students,” Dil said.

Halpin prepared for race despite heavy competition

JASMYN ELOUSSNBC Managing Editor

Despite having no previous association with the Student Government Association, Denise Halpin, a sophomore hospitality management major, entered her bid for vice president for the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus.

“I would like to get involved,” said Halpin. “I would like to take action for solution.”

She cited her experience as a pre-events coordinator for Relay for Life 2010 and her position as a delegate for the Delta Phi Epsilon sorority in the Panhellenic Council as more than enough experience needed for the task.

“I’m qualified because I have held other leadership positions,” said Halpin. “I feel I know what students’ concerns are.”

Halpin also believes that her approachable nature will help her fulfill the role of SGC-BBC vice president.

“If a student wants to tell me about their problems, I’ll be there every time,” she said. “I will also lobby so that their issues are resolved.”

Halpin plans to improve the quality of student life at BCC, with the example of reducing the cost of the Golden Panther Express bus fare – a real obstacle for students, Halpin said.

“I spend around $200. It’s a lot of money,” she said. According to her calculations, a student that uses the GPE may spend $100 to $450 per semester depending on the frequency of use.

If elected, Halpin plans on either proposing an initiative to lower the cost for the GPE for students that maintain a certain GPA or improving the package deals since she feels the $6 discount for a three week pass is “not enough.” She would also like to extend dining hours at BCC.

“Some students take classes after 6 p.m. The cafeteria is closed by then,” she said. Halpin wants to create an online newsletter with details regarding the goings-on of SGA, which would help SGA “go green” as well as be a convenient medium to inform the student body.

She also wishes to increase student involvement by hosting a showcase event that allows the students to experience working in their field.

“We would recruit advertising students to promote the event and hospitality students to provide food,” she said.

Halpin believes that a campus-wide event of this nature would be an invaluable experience for students that participate.

“It’s one thing to learn in class; it’s another thing to apply that to your field in real life,” she said.

According to Halpin, she is not at all intimidated by her more experienced candidates or the importance of the position.

“Any competition is good competition,” she said. “We’re all going to have to get people to vote. Whoever gets elected really needs to step their game up and do a great job.”

KATHERINE PORRAS
Contributing Writer

SGA Intern Wendy Terrier is another individual vying for the SGC-BBC vice president position. If elected, Terrier, a junior majoring in English, plans to open an advising office for transfer students, work toward reducing tuition prices and improve the University’s current Parking and Transportation system.

As a transfer student from Miami-Dade College, Terrier has noticed a lack of quality of advising available to students coming from other colleges.

“Freshmen and sophomores have their own advising offices. Upperclassmen go to the advising office of their major, but transfer students have nowhere to go,” she said.

She wants to open an advising office specifically for transfer students.

“I had a friend transfer from Kansas State University to FIU,” Terrier said. “She did not receive enough guidance from anyone and ended up not being able to transfer some of her credits. Had she done more research, she could have avoided these problems.”

Terrier also has an issue with FIU’s tuition increase. According to her, some students are even forced to drop out because they can’t afford it. She also says SGA is currently working on figuring out how to decrease the financial burden on the students and she wants to continue those efforts.

Another issue Terrier noted is in regard to student transportation.

“I see the shuttles are unreliable and too expensive,” she said.

Terrier says she will push to make the shuttles and parking decals cheaper or maybe even free, since she believes students already pay a lot through tuition.

Additionally, Terrier would like to implement a new forgiveness policy for parking, stating that the first two parking infractions would be waived.

“Some students are new and do not understand what the parking policy is. They should be informed,” Terrier said.

Terrier served in SGA for about eight months as an intern. She participated in many leadership seminars and activities including the Academy of Leaders leadership retreat.

“I transferred from MDC and knew I wanted to get involved, so I joined SGA as an intern,” Terrier said. “I saw what there was, and saw different ways I could get involved.”

Terrier has also participated in many community service activities through AOL, including a toy drive for children. Her latest project was working within SGA in the committee in charge of Student Appreciation Week.

“I wanted to get local bands formed by FIU students to play, to motivate students more. But we did [not] get any results and got a D instead,” Terrier said. “I still will not give up on that idea.”

Prior to participating in SGA, Terrier had never participated in any student government associations. She said most of her experience comes from different programs she worked with in high school.

“The high school I attended had a magnet law program. With that, I got involved in legal affairs, law and public affairs,” Terrier said. “Anything that has to do with law, criminal justice and public affairs interests me.”

Terrier believes she’s the woman for the job because of her passion and commitment.

“I will work adamantly for my fellow Panthers, if I’m given the opportunity to be vice president,” Terrier has determined to get the message out to administration and say “Look, this is what we need.”

With regards to her opponents for the position, she feels they all share a common ground on several issues.

“I would not say that our ideas are that far apart,” Terrier said. “We have some similar goals, ultimately we all do.”

Improve parking, student advising part of Tercier’s goals

Tercier is prepared to run in the race despite a tough opponent in Halpin.
Challenges candidates offer dynamic leadership

For the second year in a row and for the fourth time in five years, the race for SGC MMC president and vice president is untested. While some students may feel disenfranchised by this fact, feeling that their voices are not being taken into consideration, the uncontested Helena Ramirez-Nick Autiello ticket intends to bring student, experienced leadership to SGC-MMC.

During her sophomore year, presidential candidate Ramirez served as a lower division senator and first facilitated the annual now and widely successful “How to recover from a bad semester” seminar, where students receive consultation on how to improve study habits, learn time management skills, obtain advice on how to select a major and what to do if their major has been cut. Ramirez was voted senate speaker pro tempore, during which time she encouraged the use of advanced technology to expedite the approval of appropriations, bills and resolutions. Ramirez was also awarded Senator of the Year, which reflects her diligence, integrity and the respect that fellow peers have for her.

Currently a junior, Ramirez is senator-at-large as well as senate speaker. As “the voice of the university,” Speaker Ramirez worked toward attendance rates near maximum and contributed to quality legislation presented and passed through the senate. Vice presidential candidate Autiello began his SGC career his freshman year as an intern. From there, he became a member of the Executive Cabinet, then a senator. Currently a sophomore, Autiello facilitates the Executive Cabinet as its chief of staff.

As an FIU student lobbyist in the state’s legislature and an FIU federal relations officer in Washington, D.C., he has amassed relationships with the University administration and knowledge of the University’s administrative procedures. I recently had an opportunity to sit down with the dynamic, energetic duo, and was impressed with their level of school spirit and enthusiasm to be the voice of the student body.

When grilled about fiscal responsibility, the team asserted that SGC will have to differentiate between luxuries and necessities, and that a top priority will include getting students to re-examine their A&S fees when utilizing student services. Ramirez and Autiello are equipped to handle the rigors of facilitating a budget as they have both attended University-wide Budget Committee hearings.

“It all starts with communication,” Ramirez said in regards to reaching out to the student body, its relations with SGC-BBC and the restructuring of GSA and Panther Rage. Ramirez maintains that she would visit the BBC campus bi-weekly to familiarize herself with BBC students and administration. Under her leadership, Ramirez would encourage senators to facilitate town hall meetings for students to voice their concerns directly. Improvement of SGC-MMC’s Web site is also on the to-do-list.

As it relates to restructuring GSA and Panther Rage, Ramirez asserted that she would seek the expertise of the organizations’ former cabinet members to facilitate the restructuring process.

“I will do all I can to ensure that these organizations achieve their functions,” Ramirez said.

The pair discussed the legacy that they hope to create, summarizing it as “building the future.”

“If it’s not attainable now, I will set the foundation for it to be achieved in the years to come,” affirms Ramirez. “If I get 800 votes, that’s 800 students that I am accountable for, 800 problems to which I will work diligently to find solutions for.”
Site hosts, streams bands’ tunes for free

RONALD CALERO
Contributing Writer

I created an account, uploaded some songs and chose a high-quality, sleek-looking platform for distributing my music digitally in less than time it took me to write this article.

Bandcamp is a relatively new site that offers a definitively-not-so-new online service concept: to host and stream musician’s tunes, free of charge, on a personalized artist page.

The site that immediately comes to mind is MySpace – and rightly so. MySpace is the Internet’s premier site for musician’s tunes, free of charge, on a personal-ized artist page.

Instead, you’ll be presented with a simple yet elegant layout consisting mainly of a music player and the album cover art. Below that, you will find the complete track listing for all the songs in that album, all of which you can play in glorious high quality audio by simply clicking on them.

If the band has more than one album up there, it will be displayed on the right, and you can access it with a click and listen to it in its entirety in the same manner. Simple as that.

Even though its design may sound very Spartan in the scarcity of elements, it all works extremely well to provide you with an enjoyable and pure listening experience. Of course, you can personalize your page by choosing layout colors and images, but not everything on there is readily modifiable. That’s not necessarily a bad thing, because if the immense popularity of Twitter has proved anything in the realm of design, it’s that you don’t need 37 animated glitter pictures on your profile to make it look good.

Bandcamp has even gone a step further by making it possible for artists to sell their music directly to the listener right there from their profile. No label, no middleman, no hassle. Bands upload their music is entitled to for their money. That is to say, if they want to charge anything for it; it’s their music and they can price and then purchasers download it in the file format they choose. Artists can even sell songs in uncompressed audio, name their price and then purchasers download it in the file format they choose. Artists can also bundle in concerts, videos, additional art, liner notes or whatever it is that their fan base would be interested in buying.

Playing around, you’ll quickly find that Bandcamp makes it very easy and straightforward to listen to music for free. This is possible for bands to distribute their work if they want to charge anything for it; it’s something that offers a lot of artists the freedom to choose the price and then distributors download it in the file format they choose. Artists can also bundle in concerts, videos, additional art, liner notes or whatever it is that their fan base would be interested in buying.

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THE BEACON REVIEWS: HOT TUB TIME MACHINE

Steve Mesa
Staff Writer

Hot Tub Time Machine takes the idea of time travel- ing films like Back to the Future, and adds the raun- chiness of rated-R come-dies like The Hangover to become the funniest movie of the year so far.

Adam (John Cusack), Nick (Craig Robinson) and Lou (Rob Corddry) are three men who have been friends since they were teenagers, but their bonds are miserable as they have not lived up to their full potential.

Upon graduation, Adam and Nick decide to take Lou and drug Adam’s nephew, Jacob (Clark Duke), to Wasted, a ski resort where the guys used to hang out. After a night of getting wasted in a hot tub outside of their room, the four are transported to 1986.

The guys think that in order to avoid any cataclysmic wrinkle in time and come back to 2010, they need to relive the events that lead up to Winterfest 1986.

The casting is inter- esting as John Cusack, who had roles in quintes- sential ’80s movies such as Better Off Dead, serves as producer and star of the film. He plays against type as compared to his roles in the ’80s as a love-stricken adult who eases his heart- ache by getting high, but gets a second chance at love in the form of a reporter (Lizzy Caplan).

Unlike his last role in Sex Drive, Clark Duke gets to play the straight man to his older co-stars and he truly shines in his scenes with Corddry where they exchange insults at each other.

Craig Robinson is great as Nick, especially in a scene where he cusses out a 9-year-old who happens to be his future wife.

However, Rob Corddry steals the show from his co-stars as a man who does everything he can to change his future, whether he is trying to stand up to bullies or trying to become wealthy. A scene that involves soap in the bathroom is one of the many highlights from Corddry, as his role as Lou “The Violator” is his best and funniest character to date.

One of the funniest jokes in the film is a running gag involving a one-armed bellhop played brilliantly by Corddry.

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Google and Apple aren’t getting along like they used to, and it shows.

The lawsuit filed by Apple against HTC is a big deal on the surface, espe- cially since HTC’s recent success with Android devices, releasing such hits as the Hero and the Google branded Nexus One.

The fact is that lawsuits in the tech industry are frequent and either end in settlement or last long enough to watch the disputed patent expire or even become obsolete.

As it turns out, Research in Motion is suing Sharp, Kodak is suing Apple, Apple is suing Nokia, and Nokia is suing everyone. It’s chaos out there in the Valley and, frankly, I am thinking about becoming a patent lawyer when I grow up.

The allegations of patent infringements in Apple’s lawsuit against HTC are many and vary from very specific to very, very broad.

One of, for example, explains that HTC infringed patent number 7,657,849, “Unlocking a device by performing gestures on an unlock screen,” obviously referring to the iPhone’s “slide to unlock” button.

Yes, they even patented that too. I’ll leave the faults of our nation’s patent system to another columnist.

Most experts agree that this isn’t just some- thing that Apple decided to do. This was calculated and completely aimed at Android devices by HTC, who is one of the most popular Android manufacturers.

“As of right now, it’s impossible to predict what’s going to happen in this case – Apple and HTC could settle tomorrow, or it could turn into a 10 year courtroom monster,” said Nilay Patel, senior associate editor at Engadget.com. “But what we do know is that Apple’s specifically gone after HTC’s Android devices, and it’s organized its attack very carefully.”

Ever since Google CEO Eric Schmidt suddenly stepped down from Apple’s Board of Directors, a move that came after Google began moving all its troops behind Android, it was game on.

These lawsuits aside, Apple and Google being divided hurts Apple users more than it does anyone else.

Google’s current business model depends greatly on how many people use the Internet. The more people surfing the Web, the more they click on an or Google search something. Google wins.

This is why Google invests so much in Android, Chrome OS, and even its project to bring reasonably priced, blazing fast Internet to towns and communities through its Fiber for Communities Program.

The more ways there are for people like you and me to sign on to the Internet, the better off Google is.

With that in mind, Apple’s iPhone uses the
Indie fest combines vegan cuisine, beautiful scenery

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some new music.
At the hostel, they will be selling vegan goods like black bean burgers and vegan cookies.
Performers will be set against a beautiful backdrop outside the hostel next to a waterfall that you can jump into – in fact, it’s encouraged.

“I’m really excited about the waterfall, that and music equals a good time,” said DJ Roshana (Gossoff), a junior majoring in public relations who also DJs at Radiate FM.

Evan Mui, originally from New York, plays mostly acoustic, though recently he has been formulating some full band songs which you can probably expect this Saturday.
Sam Friend, whose folk inspired music brings together fans of The Shins, also majoring in anthropology, says DJ Roshana (Gossoff), a junior majoring in public relations who also DJs at Radiate FM.

“They’re great music to lounge around... and especially perfect for impressing your girlfriend with sensitive lyrics and perfect harmonies,” said Krista Lopez, a sophomore majoring in anthropology who is also a DJ at Radiate FM and is promoting the event.

The hostel, tucked away down in Florida City, will be offering rooms for $22 a night, a discounted price.

Though the bands don’t start till 9 p.m., event organizers don’t see a problem with a setup showing up a bit earlier and hanging out near the waterfall before the show starts.

And best of all, one decides to stay over, there’s more to do in the morning. Kayaks are available for renting to take on trips in the Everglades and bikes are on hand for renting too.

“Eat. Sleep. Folk.” is exactly what its name suggests.

Romance seems forced, distracts from comedic plot

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by Crispin Glover. In 1986, Corddry tries to catch the bellhop in the act of losing his arm.

Hot Tub Time Machine will bring some nostalgic memories to the men and women who grew up in that year with many references to the 1980s, including a scene that is a direct reference to Sixteen Candles and the casting of Glover who iconic role in Back to the Future as a man playing younger and older versions of his character serves as a clever parallel to the time-traveling element of the movie.

There are moments in the film in which the jokes are great – and then there are jokes that fall flat.

An extended cameo by Chevy Chase would seem like genius casting as he starred in classic films such as National Lampoon’s Vacation.

Unfortunately, Chase’s role as the magical hot tub repairman borders on being unfunny.

Also, the romantic plot involving Cusack and Caplan seems a little forced and out of place in the movie as it seems like a bit of a distraction.

Hot Tub Time Machine has a couple of flaws, but the enjoyable references to the 1980s make up for that.

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When all is said and done, iPhone users are still trapped and confined by the limits of the Appstore and the imposed will of Apple itself.

Android is slowly gaining steam because it’s open, it’s free, it’s constantly adapting and, lastly, it integrates all of Google’s services flawlessly.

Google doesn’t need Apple as much as most people think they do because people still use the Internet, regardless of whether it’s on an iPhone, a Nexus One or a laptop.

If Apple truly wants to compete, it wants to hit Google hard, it needs to open up the platform a little more.

The solution to all of Apple’s problems – including this one – is to tear down the walls and let developers run wild with the iPhone OS before they all jump ship for Android.

Fistfuls of Tech is a weekly tech column. Look for it every Friday.

Quick Picks

MOVIES

HTTM

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Miami Heat vs. Toronto Raptors

WHEN: 6 p.m.
WHERE: American Airlines Arena, 601 Biscayne Blvd.

FAMILY Fun DAY

Arts and crafts for the whole family.

WHEN: 2 - 4 p.m.
WHERE: Miami Beach Botanical Garden

THE FAIR

Write to calendar@fi usm.com to have your event featured.

EAT. SLEEP. FOLK.

• Starts: March 27 at 9 p.m.
• Ends: March 28 at 3 a.m.
• Where: Everglades International Hostel 20 SW 2nd Ave, Florida City, Florida 33024

THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Snap as many pics throughout Miami. Ends: March 28 at 3 a.m.

FREE WITH PRIZE

Full family.

An extended cameo by Chevy Chase would seem like genius casting as he starred in classic films such as National Lampoon’s Vacation.

Unfortunately, Chase’s role as the magical hot tub repairman borders on being unfunny.

Also, the romantic plot involving Cusack and Caplan seems a little forced and out of place in the movie as it seems like a bit of a distraction.

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with a little bit more rhythm so he can fill his delivery and his release point.”

Poliziano says his rhythm is fine, but focus remains a factor.

ROSTER MOVES
The current situation is not exactly what FIU head coach Daniel DeSimone wanted.

Turtle Thomas had in my mind when last season ended, but ace and senior-to-be Tom Ebert was drafted in the MLB first year player draft. Although that wasn’t surprising, the Golden Panthers lost talented right-hander Miguel Mejia to the Detroit Tigers organization after an impressive summer league performance.

The offseason shuffle left Poliziano pitching on Saturdays, the usual slot for No. 2 starters.

“It doesn’t really matter who goes where or who stays,” Poliziano said. “Starting pitching has always been a problem here, and we feel like we have to step our games up no matter if Tom or Miguel stayed.”

The problem is resurfacing this season, as the Golden Panthers are leading the Sun Belt conference in hitting with a .342 average, but are eighth in the SBC in ERA, and are one of three teams allowing opponents to a .306 batting average.

That is expected to improve, and much of the expectations are on the shoulders of the Golden Panther’s most seasoned pitcher.

Poliziano has the overwhelming confidence of his team.

“Corey is a kid that whether you pitch him on Friday, Thursday, Wednesday, out of the bullpen, he doesn’t care,” Allen said. “He’s a great teammate, he pushes other guys and that’s why he’s one of our team captains. He understands the importance of his role. Corey is only going to pitch probably another eight weeks, and that’s why I think every time he goes out he lays it all on the line because baseball is going to be over.”

The FIU lineup has been able to carry the team to a solid record, but the pitching will likely need to trend upward for the Golden Panthers to win the SBC and beyond. If the team is to take that step, Poliziano will be a big part of it as one of the most important pieces on the team.

“It’s all focus to me. Once I hit a guy I’m like ‘Oh, crap here we go again,’” he said.

“I have to stop. I’m a senior. I just need to pitch the way I usually do.”

Senior focusing on consistency

POLIZIANO, page 8

seems to always get me. I have to get rid of that inning. At least keep it to one run, not three.”

The former Miami Southridge high standout’s deck of pitches includes a fastball, changeup, and curveball, but the major emphasis is Poliziano now brings his windup down to his knees to give him more rhythm on the mound.

“Since then I have had so much better rhythm. I used to keep my windup down to his knees to give him more rhythm on the mound.”

Added Allen: “The thing that has held him back is he kind of hurts himself with walks and hit-by-pitches. He still has a tendency to give up the big home run and that’s what we have tried to concentrate on. He will get up in the zone a little bit, so we started his hands

reached the selection committee for the architectural and design work, but the hiring is not official.

Gould Evans Affiliate has recently been recognized with awards such as the Library Building Award in 2009 for work on the Palo Verde Library and Maryvale Community Center in Phoenix, Az.

Berg said the decision to appoint an architect is still being pondered internally but should be finalized soon.

The original project budget has been identified at $4.5 million, which was directly acquired from the Capitol Improvement Trust Fund. Wassenaar said discussions are taking place to reallocate the funds, however, but nothing has materialized.

Berg is very confident that the renovations will especially complement the men’s basketball program, which hired former NBA star Isaiah Thomas before last season but labored through a 7-25 campaign.

“I see Isaiah growing this program into an elite program that is consistently competing,” Berg said. “As this program grows, we will make facility upgrades. There is a promising future for this program and we have the plans in place to prepare for that future.

Alina Gonzalez, who is the SGA director of internal affairs. There are no plans for a new arena at this time.

Funding for project estimated at $4.5 million

ARENA, page 1

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Pressure mounts for veteran starter

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

The Golden Panthers were used to the kind of performance they got when Corey Polizzano left the mound after giving up two runs in the seventh inning of a 7-6 win against Troy on March 20. Polizzano left with the game tied at five, but it was a quality outing for the veteran pitcher nonetheless.

Seven innings. Four earned runs allowed on six hits. Three walks. Five strikeouts.

The line had Polizzano written all over it. FIU is usually okay with that, but Polizzano usually isn’t.

“Corey’s a kid that’s going to give his heart and soul every single time he goes out there. That’s what he did tonight. That’s what you ask of starting pitchers,” FIU pitching coach Sean Allen said. “The great thing about Corey is that if you ask him if he’s happy, he’s not happy. He knew going out there in the seventh it was his ball game to win.”

When questioned by reporters after the game, Polizzano followed the script Allen described.

“I felt alright,” the 5-foot-9 lefty said with a sigh. “Coming out you know I’m going to be mad, letting up five runs. I felt good, just had some dumb mistakes.”

BIG ROLE

One reason Polizzano knows he must improve this season is that he is being asked to assume the largest role he has had in his career. The grizzled senior is now the second starter in the weekend rotation, sandwiched between staff ace Scott Rembisz and inexperienced Aaron Arboleya.

In three seasons, Polizzano has never had an earned run average (ERA) under six, with more help from Martinez, who crushed a two-run blast over the wall in left-center to help cement the victory.

“It’s the monkey off the back,” Martinez said after hitting the home run, his first of the season. “Having a goose egg in the home run column isn’t real nice and it’s nice to get that over with. Martinez finished the game 2-for-5 with a team-high four RBIs, leading an FIU offense that finished with 15 hits.

“We were able to hit through the line up and we were able to get some timely hits,” Thomas said.

FIU 12, JACKSONVILLE 6

The Golden Panthers returned to the win column with a victory over the Dolphins on March 23. FIU, coming off a crushing loss in the series finale against Troy, hit four home runs to power the offense in the win.

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