In Memoriam

Kendall Berry
1987 - 2010

Community reacts to tragedy on campus

Jorge Valens
News Director

The University community continues to mourn the passing of Golden Panther running back Kendall Berry.

On March 26, the Graham Center Pit lights were lowered as a memorial for Berry; a single candle accompanied by a photo was displayed throughout the day.

Quentin Wyche, a student and former teammate of Berry's, stabbed him on the evening of March 25. Berry died on the way to the hospital.

According to The Miami Herald, the incident began after Berry's girlfriend and Wyche had a disagreement in which Wyche threw cookies at her face. The report added that Wyche turned himself into authorities on the evening of March 26.

University President Mark Rosenberg addressed the University community via YouTube to convey a message of unity and reassurance that FIU is safe.

"In our sorrow, we must come together," Rosenberg said. "We must not let this heinous crime overshadow the incredible track record for safety that we have."

He described Berry as "well-liked" and "a tireless worker."

Golden Panther football coach Mario Cristobal echoed the sentiment. "Kendall had an infectious personality; he was loved and respected by everyone who had the privilege of knowing him," said Cristobal in a written statement. "It was truly an honor to have known and coached Kendall. It's a shame to lose such a young life to an act of senseless violence."

He added that he would like to thank the University community for their support and that the football team has suspended its activities indefinitely while the team mourns Berry's loss.

Community reacts to tragedy on campus

Gabriel Arrarás
Asst. News Director

Currently a sophomore majoring in international relations, Nick Autiello has been involved in nearly every facet of the Student Government Association.

Autiello began his work at SGA as an intern. Later, he was elected as lower division senator for MMC where he moved up to cabinet member and served as director of technology, as well as deputy chief of staff.

His current position as chief of staff serves as the president and vice president’s senior aide.

According to the SGA Web site, Autiello is also in charge of directly supervising the cabinet while ensuring cooperation between the executive, legislative and judicial branches.

According to a written statement from the Ramirez and Autiello campaign to Student Media, Autiello has gained a great working knowledge of FIU’s lobbying duties by advocating for students in Tallahassee.

Autiello also worked for the FIU Federal Relations Office in Washington, D.C., where he “gained a great working knowledge of FIU’s academic departments and administration.”

Currently, Autiello is running unopposed for Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus vice president alongside Helena Ramirez, who is running for president of SGC-MMC.

Future VP aims to integrate community

Gabriel Arrarás
Asst. News Director

SGC-MMC Candidate Profile: Nick Autiello

SGC-MMC Candidate Profile: Helena Ramirez

Ramirez strives to improve student life

Gabriel Arrarás
Asst. News Director

Helena Ramirez started her time at FIU in Fall of 2007, when she began her work with the Student Government Association as an intern for the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus president at the time, Maribeth Hernandez.

According to a written statement from the Ramirez and Autiello campaign to Student Media, Ramirez helped to coordinate a basketball tournament for the United Way which raised over $2,000 in funds.

In the Spring of 2008, Ramirez ran for lower division senator, a position she held until April 2009. During her term as senator, she was voted to speak pro-tempore due to a senate member resigning.

According to the statement written to Student Media, Ramirez also received a Senator of the Year award during her time as speaker pro-tempore.

Later in April 2009, Ramirez ran for speaker at-large and was voted by her fellow senators to be senate speaker.

“Shes had the most successful senate, probably ever, that we can find records for,” said Nick Autiello, the current executive cabinet chief of staff and SGA vice presidential candidate.

According to the SGA Web site, “the senate speaker is trusted with the responsibility of leading the senate...[he] senate speaker..."
Ramirez focuses on ‘green’ initiatives, customer service

Autiello’s goals include redesigning Web site

University mourns loss

The Beacon – Monday, March 29, 2010
www.fiusm.com

ensures that the senate is fulfilling their duty of representing the interest of the student body in all University matters, locally, statewide, nationally and internationally.

Currently, Ramirez is running unopposed for SGC-MMC on a mixed platform of academics, campus life, student services, housing and environmental efforts.

Her campaign is heavily student-oriented, promising to “improve academic advising and tutoring centers, increase student study spaces, improving campus safety and providing more housing recreational areas,” among other things.

“One of the big things to me is the customer service aspect of the University. It’s something that we can definitely work on,” Ramirez said.

Autiello’s goals include meeting student government affairs, a major staple of the Ramirez/Autiello ticket.

“Leadership isn’t one person. We want to make sure that SGA is almost synonymous with ideal leadership,” Ramirez said.

BERRY, page 1

high six touchdowns and led a version of the “WildCat,” a popular offensive formation that was widely referred to as the “WildBerry.”

Former Golden Panther quarterback and FIU alumnus Paul McCall was awakened with the news of Berry’s passing Thursday night from the team’s left tackle Andy Leavine.

“Kendall always made people around him smile. Always making people’s days better,” McCall said of Berry. “When this happens to your friend, and a guy whom you have known for four years, obviously it is emotional,” McCall said.

Lisa Edwards, academics success coach at the Student Athlete Academic Center and adjunct English professor, had been working with Berry since 2007.

She said that Berry “could tackle anything” and described him as “cheerful, cooperative and ready to do his work.”

“I’m at a loss for words,” said senior international relations major Carmen Fernandez, describing Berry as a “nice guy” and a “quiet person.”

Fernandez has known Berry since his freshman year at the University. Student Government Council at Modesto MacArthur Campus President Anthony Rionda left a College of Architecture and the Arts awards ceremony as soon as he heard what had happened.

“It’s a devastation, he gave it all, he represented us in the classroom, on the field, and outside of the University,” Rionda said.

Memorial services for Berry will be held at the U.S. Century Bank Arena on March 29 from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Additional reporting by David Barrios, Philippe Buteau, Joel Delgado and Jonathan Ramos.

Tuesday Times Roundtable

“Changing Education from the Bottom Up: Reforming the Early Education System in America.”

Title: "Changing Education from the Bottom Up: Reforming the Early Education System in America."

Moderator: Charles Bleeker, Ph.D. (Early Childhood Education)

Time & Location: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 12:45pm - 1:45pm
GC 150
Lunch and refreshments provided.
Elections candidates use debate to fully express platforms

One of which is Mawou Francois, SGC-BBC clerk of council, who is running for the busi-ness senatorial seat.

“I feel the School of Business hasn’t given enough to the previous business senator,” Fran-cois said. “They haven’t given students enough opportunities like internships or networking, which are quintessential to business majors, so I want to have those opportunities for the students in my last year.”

Mawou is interested in bringing events to BBC, such as dinner etiquette seminars or how to start their own business, featuring people from the community who began their own small businesses.

Damieterus Vincent, a graduate student in the SMC major, is a global strategic communications, is also running unopposed for the gradu-ate senatorial seat. Vincent wants to address issues graduate students have, such as the lack of research tools.

“One of the concerns I’ve found from SMC graduate students was the fact that this is a public research university and we don’t have some of the research materials that we need, such as Simmons and [Medium] Research and Intelligence,” which are research programs that allow you to do your work.

Victoria Aguila, senator of the College of Arts and Sciences and chairperson of the Senate Communications Committee, is running for a position at-large. She aims to simply voice the concerns of students using Facebook and the SGA website, as well as work with staff and administration.

“I’m currently trying to establish more administration contacts for different issues that I guess are actually important,” said Aguila. “Undergraduate advising, I think we should definitely improve that.”

“Students can access The New York Times for free through the library’s Web site at library.fiu.edu

New York Times halted at MMC, continues at BBC

LORENA ESTRADA
Staff Writer

Every so often, senior and inter-national business major Carla Rospiglios- i picks up The New York Times to read as she waits for her 5 p.m. class. But in just a few months Rospigliosi will have to start making trips to the library to get her weekly doses of the paper.

As of June 1, The New York Times will no longer be offered to FIU students Universe wide. Instead, the Student Government Associa-tion is promoting the online issue to students at Modesto Maidique Campus in an attempt to be more green, cut expenses and allocate the money elsewhere.

“We’re working with the Times on maybe coming up with a different plan instead of just putting it out and promote the online paper students have full access to, and maybe partner with the Times and get another newspaper,” said Anthony Ronda, SGC- MMC president. “We are discussing this with them as we speak.”

According to SGA, the Univer-sity has rejected funding and the continuation of its annual contract with the Times because many people were under the impression that it was mostly utilized by professors at MMC, not the students.

“I don’t just want to stack newspa-pers for the health of having it,” said Ronda. “What I want to do is come up with a new strategy that will be creative and better for our students, be environmentally-friendly while still maintaining our responsibility to use students’ money wisely.”

Briton Alonso, a senior and jour-nalism major at FIU, said she under-stands the sentiment but thinks it’s important to give students the option of reading the paper online or by hand.

“I think it’s a shame. Yes, maybe MMC gets too many of them and yes, the students at MMC don’t seem to care as much, but the paper should at least be available,” Alonso said.

“It needs to at least be available at the library or somewhere. I remember the many times Biscayne Bay ran out of The New York Times. Send the extra copies to the Biscayne Bay Camp!”

Although the Times will no longer be offered University wide, students in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication don’t have to worry since BBC will continue to receive the paper.

However, according to Shelom Neinstein, Student Government Council at BBC president, they will only be provide half of the amount of newspapers compared to last year.

This means that, while journalism students like Alonso ask for more newspapers, they might be receiving less newspapers next year.

“We are hoping the School of Journalism and Mass Communica-tions will fund the other half because it mostly benefits them,” said Nei-stein. “If not, they will still get the paper but only half of the amount.”

According to Ronda, the annual contract consisted of 400 New York Times newspapers delivered a day for 145 days. Those members result in approximately $290 a year, a “boat load of money” as described by Ronda.

Now that the University denied renewing the same contract as last year, students are encouraged to read the Times online. The Times will soon begin charging a fee for those who want to read the paper online, but Neinstein said students don’t have to worry about that fee.

Students can access The New York Times for free through the library’s Web site at library.fiu.edu
The race for SGC-BBC vice president has the potential to be a tight one with individual candidates vying for the position. Emmanuel Osemota, a second-year marketing major, and Ahmad Zaid, a senior strategic management major, are both from the upper division. Osemota highlights his passion for leadership and his dedication to the BBC community, while Zaid emphasizes his strong communication skills and his ability to listen and understand student concerns. The race promises to be a close one, as both candidates strive to represent the student body effectively.

On the other hand, the SGC-MMC presidential race is heating up with three candidates vying for the position. Vinny Vitali, a second-year business major, and Emily Berasategui, a second-year education major, are facing off against Katrina Leong, a first-year law major. Vitali showcases his leadership experience in student government and his commitment to improving student services, while Berasategui highlights her strong work ethic and her passion for making a positive impact on the MMC community. Leong, on the other hand, presents herself as a strong advocate for student rights and her dedication to ensuring that theMMC community is well-represented.

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**ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ 
Staff Writer**

In lieu of Women's History Month, the Women's International Film & Arts Festival, running from March 26 to April 3, provides a look at the complex issues surrounding the subject of being a woman.

Named by the Miami New Times as the “Best Film Festival” in 2009, WIFF offers a unique and cultural event to view films, visual and performance arts, and other vehicles of art made by and about women.

Vivica A. Fox headlines 2010’s festival with the premiere of her film *Junkyard Dog* on April 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lou Rawls Theatre at Florida Memorial University.

You can get a taste of Hollywood at the red carpet event held before the premiere and maybe even bump into the celebrated star. *Junkyard Dog* is a psychological thriller that tells the story of Andrea Buckman, a 19-year-old college student, who is kidnapped by a cannibalistic serial rapist and struggling to stay alive. Fox plays the tough FBI agent sent to search for the missing girl.

This year’s special events include the second annual Film Pool Pajama Party and a Family Fun Fest, a PG event catered to everyone. The Pool Pajama Party is a supersized slumber party held at the Mayfair Hotel and Spa in Coconut Grove. Guests can enjoy a selection of the festival’s short films, drinks and hors d’oeuvres, and relax poolside in a lounge chaise or cabana. Take full advantage of not having to stress about what to wear and come in your PJs. The event starts at 6 p.m. This event in particular is a bit pricey, coming in just under $50, but there is an open bar and free food.

Some of the screening locations are the Miami Science Museum Theater on 2380 South Miami Ave., which hosts European, Asian, African and Indian films; the ICON Theater at the Viceroy Hotel on 485 Brickell Ave, hosting North American features; and the Lou Rawls Theater at Florida Memorial University in Miami Lakes, featuring films from the Caribbean.

Be sure to check out 16 to Life playing April 2 at 2 p.m. at the Tower Theatre (1508 SW 8th St). The film tells the story of Kate, played by Halle Hirsh, whom you may remember from Disney Channel’s *The Ultimate Christmas Present* and countless TV guest appearances, as she deals with the pressures of coming of age and sex.

If you’re looking for something to do other than watch films, check out the “Godess Memorial Show,” a parody on every woman’s favorite time of the month. Using sketch comedy, musical parody and personal stories, actresses of the Youth Performance Company shed light on the taboo subject of menstruation.

Also check out Can She Be Saved, a look at youthful activity. Yasmin Shiraz’s interviews with middle school girls labeled as aggressive and her exploration of the reasons behind their explosive behavior while exposing society’s cultural attitude toward girl fights.

One of two festivals in the South-Western United States, it is one of two festivals in the South-
Films discuss gender issues

Director stresses her love for film

INTERVIEW, page 6

Music genres, styles clearly influence our wardrobes

EXPLODING, page 6

Why is it that we do this to begin with? Are we constantly trying to fit into a particular group and culture and, if so, how temporary is it? I don’t really listen to emo records anymore and, if I do, it is a retroactive nostalgia. I’m not really immersing myself into the culture.

How long are we going to be transitional into stages of punk or indie? When will we stop, if we ever stop, to gravitate into stages of punk or indie? Why is it that we do this to begin with? Is it because the music or the image we project is glamorous? I honestly hope it never ends. I hope that I can spend my whole life struggling to find an identity within the boundaries of music. But odds are it won’t happen. I’ll continue to listen to the same music I’m listening to now and I’ll probably be considered square (if that handle will still hold relevance in 20 years).

Exploding Head is a weekly column covering all things music. Look for it every Monday.
**ROCKY ROAD GAMES**

**Golden Panthers struggle in first Sun Belt road trip**

**JOEL DELGADO**  
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers (16-8, 3-3 SBC) dropped the first two games in their first Sun Belt series on the road, but managed to win the series finale against the UALR Trojans (16-10, 3-6 SBC).

**FIU 14, UALR 7**

The Golden Panthers were able to bounce back and avoid the sweep as the offense bounced back to life in a victory over UALR on March 28.

Aaron Arbolyea was able to keep the Trojans in check, striking out seven batters while allowing just two unearned runs in six innings on the mound. The win improved the sophomore right-hander’s record to 2-1.

FIU had a six-run lead heading in the seventh inning, but the Trojans rallied and scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh to close the gap. But reliever Eric Berkowitz came in to close the game, pitching the final innings to earn his third save of the season.

Every Golden Panther in the lineup scored at least once in the game, with Jeremy Fattou and Tim Jobe leading the way with four hits and four RBI each.

**UALR 19, FIU 5**

The rain came in droves and so did the struggles as FIU got routed in the second game of their series against UALR.

A rain delay that lasted a little over three hours sent the rain-soaked game into the late hours on March 27, prolonging a game that the Golden Panthers were hoping to get out of as soon as possible.

Corey Polizzano started for FIU and struggled as he allowed six runs, five of them earned, on four hits in just one inning to pick up the loss, dropping his record to 1-2 on the season.

The bullpen did not fare much better, giving up 13 runs and 14 hits over the final six innings.

**FIU 2, SU 5**

Aaron Arbolyea [above] picked up his second win of the season and prevented FIU from being swept vs. UALR.

Rojas recorded the lone FIU hit in the top of the fifth inning and scored the winning run after stealing second base and moving to third on a Hatter error before senior Lauren Spiers drove her in on a sacrifice fly.

Barrett’s shutout is the 11th of her career as she is now tied for second on FIU’s career shutouts list.

The slugger knocked out her sixth homerun of the year, a three-run shot, to lead FIU to a 3-1 victory.

With the win, FIU is now 21-11 on the year while SU falls to 19-14.

The senior pitcher gave up two hits in the six-run lead heading in the seventh inning, but the Trojans rallied and scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh to close the gap. But reliever Eric Berkowitz came in to close the game, pitching the final innings to earn his third save of the season.

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**UALR 5, FIU 4 (12)**

Down by a run in the sixth inning, FIU had a chance to cause damage by loading the bases with nobody out but managed to manufacture just one run to tie the game.

The Trojans took the lead late in the game, but Tim Jobe would tie it up at 4-4 in the eighth inning with his sixth home run of the season.

The score remained and the game went into extra innings, and in the 12th inning UALR won the game on a walk-off single. R.J. Fondon was left holding the bag, picking up the loss despite striking out nine batters and just giving up one run.

**SOFTBALL**

**Rojas records sixth homer to lead FIU to series win**

**STEPHANIE GABRIEL**  
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers are still on the prowl.

After dropping a critical series to Troy last weekend, the FIU softball team pounced back taking two of three games at Stetson Univer on March 27 and 28 in DeLand, Fla.

**FIU 1, SU 0**

In game one, Kasey Barrett was back to her usual self.

The senior pitcher gave up two hits in a complete game shutout to lead the FIU over the Hatters, 1-0. After struggling last week, the team was relieved to have her back in full force.

“Everyone put in a lot of hard work and I thought a lot of that showed up,” head coach Beth McClendon said. “Kasey was one of those people that put in a lot of hard work over the week. She fixed a few things and worked on her mechanics and it really showed.”

Solid pitching left both teams scoreless through the first four innings, but FIU freshman Brie Rojas changed that.

Rojas recorded the lone FIU hit in the top of the fifth inning and scored the winning run after stealing second base and moving to third on a Hatter error before senior Lauren Spiers drove her in on a sacrifice fly.

Rojas’ homer, which came on a 3-2 pitch, moved to third on a Hatter error before senior Lauren Spiers drove her in on a sacrifice fly.

Barrett’s shutout is the 11th of her career as she is now tied for second on FIU’s career shutouts list.

**FIU 2, SU 5**

The dominant pitching that FIU showed in the first game was nowhere to be found in game two.

After being down 2-1, the Hatters rallied back to take the lead after FIU senior Paige Casady gave up four runs in the fourth inning. FIU was unable to respond offensively as they dropped the game, 5-2.

The bullpen did not fare much better, giving up 13 runs and 14 hits over the final six innings.

**FIU 3, SU 0**

Spectators were able to witness what Rojas does best.

The slugger knocked out her sixth homerun of the year, a three-run shot, to lead FIU to a 3-1 victory.

Freshman Kayla Burris, who went 3-for-4 on the day, led off the first inning with a double before Ashley McClain singled and stole second base to set up Rojas’ homer, which came on a 3-2 pitch.

"Brie, as a freshman, has been really impressive and I’m really happy," McClendon said. “She’s worked really well with the rest of the lineup.”

Rojas always seems to have the big hit at the right time as five of her six homeruns have come with two runners on base.

The Hatters’ lone run came in the bottom of the third after a sacrifice fly that allowed Chelsea Whalley to score after she doubled earlier in the inning.

In the circle, Griadek pitched a complete game giving up the single run and six hits for FIU.

"Jen was great today and she’s continuing to get better and better," McClendon said. “She’s been a player that has been improving while others have been up and down.

With the win, FIU is now 21-11 on the year while SU falls to 19-14.