Panthers face Ragin’ Cajuns in road game

THOMAS JOHNSON
Contributing Writer

The Golden Panthers have an opportunity that has never been presented before: win at least two out of the next three games and become Sun Belt Conference champs.

If they can accomplish that, they will be up for a bowl bid for the first time ever as well.

GodDaddy.com Bowl officials were able to witness FIU’s commanding 52-35 victory over four-time defending champion Troy. This week, New Orleans Bowl officials will be in attendance for the Golden Panthers last road game of the season against the University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

“Hopefully it’s not the last road game,” said quarterback Wesley Carroll, who could still play a bowl game in December if his team can win the conference.

It may be the last opportunity to impress bowl officials.

“This is by far the biggest game ever in our history,” Bailly said.

The Golden Panthers will look to defeat the Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin’ Cajuns for the second year in a row and move one step closer to a Sun Belt Conference championship and bowl eligibility.

Professor’s artistic side helps give him a sense of place

THOMAS JOHNSON
Contributing Writer

As far as art exhibition titles go, it would be hard to find a more fitting one for John Bailly’s paintings in the new show: “A Sense of Place.”

But for Bailly, who was born in the English town of Slough to a French father and American mother, then spent the first 10 years of his life in Long Island, Paris and Lyon, feeling a strong sense of attachment to one specific geographic location was something of an abstract notion.

Bailly, a professor in the Honors College and winner of the 2010 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching regularly exhibits his paintings at galleries across the country. His work was part of the sense of place exhibits at Carol Jazzar Contemporary Art in Miami.

He admits his artwork is very much influenced by his sense of identity.

“I’m really interested in place and identity as it relates to place and culture. I think that’s kind of how my life is,” Bailly said.

“When I’m in France, I’m the American guy and when I’m in the U.S., I’m the French guy and so I don’t really belong anywhere so I kind of have to invent my own place.”

For most of his life, he has been the French guy, never more so than when he first moved to Miami with his parents.

“I was 10 years old and I could only read and write the word ‘cat’ in English,” Bailly said. “I could speak it because my mother always spoke English at home.”

Other words soon followed as Bailly became more accustomed to his new city, eventually attending Killian Senior High School.

It was not until his sophomore year of high school, however, when he began to get a sense, not of place, but of his passion.

“I’ve always loved to draw,” he said. “I would neglect other subjects just so I could paint and draw and make artwork.”

Professor John Bailly presents his painting Las Hermanas Islets to Jessica Leetome, the events assistant at The Frost.

Natalia Bailly, his wife of 12 years, noticed this aspect of her husband’s personality from the onset.

“He was pretty much exactly how he is now when I met him,” Natalia Bailly said. “He is incredibly driven. He gets up at three, four in the morning to paint every day for weeks in a row. It’s almost like he doesn’t get tired.”

This single-minded focus led to his acceptance into the Performing and Visual Arts Center program, the predecessor to the New World School of the Arts, which allowed Bailly to take art classes at Miami-Dade College, a memorable experience.

Students find place for religion on campus

LAUREN ROVIRA
Contributing Writer

A study by the Higher Education Research Institute showing that only 42 percent of students describe themselves as secure in their religious beliefs.

The study, which surveyed college students throughout the country, found that 81 percent of students said they attend religious services, while 23 percent said they were still seeking answers.

Whether a student can maintain religiosity in a University setting is argued upon the acquisition of new knowledge and the adherence to old dogmas.

Muslim Student Association president, Sarah Usman, elaborated on this belief, “I do believe such knowledge is capable of doing as mentioned because a lot of comprehensive information is presented to students as well as a wide range of specific courses to choose from.”

Yet, as the survey showed, the percentage of college students involved in religious practices is relatively high.
### RELIGION, page 1

Under the Council for Students of Organizations, there is a division of numerous religious groups for the campus faithful. “Some students retain their religions because they were raised in a place where religion was very important to them. Religion is very soothing to the brain, and many college students that are stressed may be more likely to fall on religion as a way to relieve this stress,” explained Mica Cohen, president of Hillel Second Generation, a Jewish club on campus. "Since there are various organizations on campus that allows this, it’s easier for students to keep the connection to their religion.”

The University provides means for students to vary their faiths to practice their beliefs. While, walking through the Graham Center, it is not uncommon to see multiple booths lined up to advocate religious groups’ beliefs. Both CSO and Multicultural Programs and Services, give an opportuity for those who feel underrepresented to establish an organization, and to provide education to students who want to learn more.

Paul Massingill of the MDC-FIU Wesley group, a Christain group often found tabling in GC, said, “What’s necessary is for people to pursue all the religious edge in all areas of study with passion and integrity, and then engage each other in conversation.”

Debate over religious beliefs and conflicts of ideas has historically created gaps between people, and religion often provides a way to oppose from scientific perspectives. For instance, where religions preach creation, as in the book of Genesis, science typically takes to Darwin’s theory of evolution.

“In science, what we do is use objective evidence and naturalistic assumptions; the assumption that physical things can be explained without the use of the supernatural as the best. Some people find working explanation of an observed physical phenomenon.” explained Caroline Simpson, associate professor for the Department of Physics. "Science by definition is belief without proof or evidence. These two methods of knowing cannot, therefore, be used to do the same things. They are different tools with different purposes.”

Whereas the general feeling amongst some of the prominent educated is outlined by Simpson, some equally knowledgeable individuals differ in their stance regarding the possibility of faith and practical knowledge.

“We could not prove the existence of atoms until we developed fine enough tools to measure them and see them,” said Professor Norris. “Scientific methods are not opposing forces, but complementary. Science attempts to explain the mysteries of the universe and religion attempts to experience it.”

Some bridges are bridging that divide between faith and science with spirituality rather than religion.

### RELIGION, page 1

### BAILLY, page 1

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Despite monumental win at Troy, there is more to be done

With Mario Cristobal receiving a water cooler bath treatment in the closing moments of a program-defining win against Sun Belt powerhouse Troy, one would have thought the Golden Panthers had won the conference and earned itself a bowl berth. Not so fast. Yes, the win was everything FIU had been trying to accomplish for years. Yes, it puts the Golden Panthers in prime position for its first conference championship. But there are still a few more hurdles that this team needs to dodge before they reach the postseason and earn a program-defining victory over Troy this upcoming weekend.

The outcome this upcoming weekend in Lafayette is just as important as the final result in Troy this upcoming weekend. For FIU, the final three games are all about whether or not this team is prepared to usher in a new era in a territory for a program that has been shuttered. Yes, it was a game in which numerous program records were shattered. No, it was not a program-defining victory over Troy this upcoming weekend. The outcome this upcoming weekend in Lafayette is just as important as the final result in Troy this upcoming weekend. For FIU, the final three games are all about whether or not this team is ready to accept the responsibility of being a top contender in this conference. It becomes a challenge as to whether or not this team is prepared to usher in a new era in a territory for a program that has been shuttered. Middle Tennessee has underperformed despite the return of dual-threat quarterback Dwight Dasher from an early season suspension. Troy... we all know what happened to them. And the rest of the conference has delved into a thick fog of mediocrity. Now the Golden Panthers are starting to rise above that fray of chaos in the Sun Belt and has a chance to become the new conference flag bearer. Winning out the last three games and finishing with a 7-5 record would bring at least bring some semblance of credibility to the conference and show that this FIU team is the real deal.

But first thing’s first: no more Gatorade showers before Cristobal raises that trophy in front of the home crowd. For the full column, visit www.fi usm.com.
ULL tight end poses a threat to Golden Panthers

Before the season began, Isaiah Thomas said his approach with this team started with defense. He pointed at the fact that the team was disruptive in its ability to get steals last season, but the team was amongst the worst in the Sun Belt Conference in points allowed.

"You’re not going to shoot well every night," Head Coach Isaiah Thomas said after the team’s win over Barry on Nov. 15. "But the thing you can always do well is defend, and when you’re not shooting it well and you’re not having a good offensive game, your defense can carry you. If your offense kicks in, where we had a few moments tonight where our offense kicked in, then you’re able to pull it away. Apparently, the team is showing signs of becoming the defensive group Thomas believes they can be. Through two games, the Panthers are allowing just 63.5 points per game on 40 percent shooting.

The team is averaging 10 steals a game and forcing nearly 20 turnovers in wins over Florida Memorial University and Barry. Granted, those two opponents play below the Division I level, but FIU (2-0) did give up 82 points to FMU in the season opener last season.

"Coach is always telling us we can be a great defensive team when we want to be, and he’s always complaining about us not playing defense for 40 minutes," FIU guard DeJuan Wright said. "So, when we came out, we just made up in our mind, everything starts defensively. We have enough good offensive players, but defense wins championships.

"We deserve some credit but the backs found the holes and made big plays," Bryant Jr. said. The offense may run into trouble this Saturday against the Ragin’ Cajuns. According to Carroll, ULL is known for bringing a heavy amount of blitzes.

"They’re not afraid to bring in the blitz. With any team that is that aggressive, we have to make them pay with a big play and hopefully slow down the pass rush. Until we establish a run game…none of that is going to be able to happen," Carroll said.

With a win against ULL, Mario Cristobal will have five wins, tying for most wins in a season in his young coaching career. Cristobal’s team finished 5-7 in his second season as a head coach in 2008.

GAITOR REWARDED

Anthony Gaitor was honored by the Sun Belt Conference as the Defensive Player of the Week for his stellar play against Troy.

With eight tackles on the game, including one tackle for a loss, the defensive back also managed to keep one of the offensive back also managed to keep one of the offensive back also managed to keep one of the offensive back also managed to keep one of the offensive back also managed to keep one of the defensive backs on the game. As a result, the offensive backs found the holes and made big plays. Bryant Jr. said. The offense may run into trouble this Saturday against the Ragin’ Cajuns. According to Carroll, ULL is known for bringing a heavy amount of blitzes.

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The Golden Panthers (4-5, 4-1 SBC) will face a ULL (2-8, 2-4 Sun Belt) team that has lost their last six games after opening to Maine on Nov. 12. They finished with a 12-18 overall record in 2009-10. JONATHAN RAMOS

SPORTS

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Defense a key factor for Golden Panthers scheme

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

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The Wolfsonian Museum celebrated its fifteenth anniversary on Nov. 12 with a Quinceañera celebration at the Frost Museum of Science.

Author Arliss Ryan talks to theater students after her lecture held at The Frost Museum on Nov. 12.

REEL TO REEL

Marxist spoof strangely relevant

Charlie Chaplin's Modern Times is based primarily on the Marxist concept of the dehumanization of labor. It’s earliest scenes, of sheep being led through pens juxtaposed with images of wage laborers going to their jobs, is about as subtle as a sledgehammer to a brick wall.

Chaplin’s famous screen persona, The Tramp, is the nut lightener on a conveyor belt in a non-descript factory. The action of twisting bolts with a giant wrench in each hand has him soerratically on his lunch break that when he’s asked by a co-worker to hold an open thermos full of soup, he can do nothing but spill it.

There’s no time for lunch, though. The factory owner wants to test a newly-created Billow’s Feeding Machine meant to elimintate lunch hours and feed employees quickly so they can return to work. The scenes in the factory escalate to a climax where The Tramp, trying desperately to tighten a bolt that he missed on the assembly line, jumps onto the conveyor belt and gets caught in the very machine he’s serving.

He’s only a cog in the machine. This is very much a film about resistance. The fact that Chaplin would make a primarily silent film (albeit with some audio effects and dialogue) almost a decade after the advent of sound in film, is itself shocking.

At the end of the film The Tramp, now a waiter in a nightclub, is forced to sing, he can only sing on the receiving end of a blowsy woman who forced Shakespeare to marry and ruined his life, explained Ryan. “However, there is no factual evidence.”

Ryan insists that there is very little historical information on Anne, and the conclusions previously drawn are mainly hypothetical.

In preparation for this book, Ryan conducted extensive research and analysis of Shakespeare’s plays, sonnets and the historical context of his life, as well as travelling to England to study the story of Anne and William Shakespeare in the place where it played out.

Ryan’s visit to the University is due to faculty member Philip Church, who ran across her novel in a local bookstore and thought she could have much to offer.

“This is my first visit to the University,” Ryan said at the lecture. Her visit included a workshop with English and Theater majors, along with the lecture at the Frost and bookstore signings.

Throughout the lecture, Ryan explained some of the evidence that led her to believe Anne Shakespeare could possibly have written a piece such as Romeo and Juliet.

Ryan explained that, although woman in 16th century England would most likely not have had access to an upper level education, Anne could have learned to read and write by either tutoring, or even with the help of her husband.

Surrounded by actors and playwrights, there’s the possibility that she could have channelled her imagination, curiosity and natural talent into playwriting, just as her husband did. However, because of the laws of the time, women could not publish their work explaining why her work would be under William’s name.

“The understanding of female psychology [that Shakespeare’s plays have] are not in [the work of] any other writers of the time. So a woman could have written this. We like Mabert’s work because it’s Mabert. Then, for us who produce Shakespeare, the value of it is also dependent on who wrote it,” said Ryan during a Q&A after his lecture.

Immediately after the lecture, theater majors Carina Skandre, Mariette Galler, Omar Bham and Stephanie Perez presented scenes developed in their Shakespeare performance class this fall. The students adapted chapters of Ryan’s historical fiction, transciting them into Elizabethan English.

Ryan’s main conclusion was, “True genius is not subject to a specific gender, ethnicity or place of birth,” she explained. “So why shut down possibilities such as this one? The author said there might be a possibility of turning the novel into a play or even a movie in the future.

“This is my first visit to the University, but maybe not the last,” Ryan said after the lecture.
FISTFULS OF TECH!

University should take advantage of new social outlets

In case you haven’t noticed, social media is kind of a big deal. On a university campus social media can be an indispensable tool to not only reaching the community but also engaging and even educating them.

Sadly, FIU follows a growing trend of universities that squander their social media presence.

According to a study done by US News and World Report, universities utilize their social media to broadcast, not engage.

“As a whole, universities and colleges tend to use Twitter as a broadcasting channel rather than a medium for conversations,” noted the study.

“Colleges use Twitter primarily to post news updates and official announcements, and utilize the reply feature less frequently than typical users.”

What I have learned from researching the social media feeds of not just the University but various in and out of state universities, is that social media is used for one of two things: regurgitating links to press releases or making banal statements. It shouldn’t be like that.

Social media can be a valuable asset both in and out of the classroom. Social media can even be a valuable asset to a professor. A professor can create a class-specific account they can use to post valuable information, such as assignments, exam dates and links to class readings.

Social media distributes raw information, inspires conversation and can be adapted to almost every situation and every subject. A large screen with a stream of tagged tweets can effectively crowd source a large class, streamlining the question and answer process and promoting conversation. I would like to see universities, like our own, encourage this behavior and educate their students on what this technology can do for them.

Another ability social media has, and what it is normally used for, is as a platform for online marketing. But there’s online marketing and then there is spamming people with press releases and nonsense. While promoting a self-image over social media, rather than be a feed or an obsessions stream of useless tweets, why not try to be a resource?

Having a reliable and thoughtful social media presence does way more for an institution’s image than any feed of links would. People ignore links, they don’t ignore substance.

A university’s greatest asset is its knowledge. Universities usually have world-renowned experts on almost every conceivable subject. Let them use their expertise to promote and at the same time contribute something meaningful, something more than a blurry Twitter pic of a campus event.

If a professor at the college the business is working on a special project, let them discuss it on Twitter for a few hours in the day. This can start a conversation and get feedback for the professor while promoting a worthy project or event. Also, by keeping an eye on the news cycle, we can really turn our social media presence into a resource. If tragedy strikes in the form of an environmental disaster, like in Haiti earlier this year, then turn the social reigns over to some experts who can contribute insight and information that normally wouldn’t be discussed on CNN or FOX.

The goal here is to promote by informing. People providing insight and information beats a link to a YouTube video of Roary the Squirrel dancing any day of the week.

Yet, in the era of NAFTA and tea-partiers and economic turmoil and Predator Drones, we can probably stand to listen to his message.

Chaplin suggests that in the end all we can really do is laugh. And smile.

Modern Times still relative to today’s movie audiences

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Modern Times is still not our time.

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America lagging behind in high tech advancement

NEDA GHOMESHI
Staff Writer

We all know the global economy is suffering and, by all accounts, the recovery is going to be a slow and painful one for some nations, especially the United States. Many elements have contributed to this downturn and the blame is placed on different factors.

Some believe it was the unemployability of easy money, consumer carelessness and deregulation that led to the crash. There is still a lot to be said, and we need to look at the future and decipher what can be done to help our economy avoid future downturns of this magnitude.

In order for the U.S. to remain a global power, we need to implement an economic standpoint, we need to improve the skills of our workforce. We need to do through education and reeducation, particularly in the area of technology. A significantly higher amount of money should be allocated to research and development of new technologies that will benefit our lives and the environment. As a nation, we need to remain a necessity in this global market.

Innovation is fueled by research and development that requires funding from private organizations as well as government support. We are falling behind in the development of new technologies and the U.S. government should establish more research funding programs.

It should also provide large grants to universities to encourage them to dedicate more of their resources to technological developments.

Many of the technological advances that we have enjoyed over the years have come from government organizations such as the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and N.A.S.A. I believe these agencies should be strengthened, not just because of the products they produce, but rather for their discoveries. Their discoveries and inventions have led to the creation of major businesses and all the location-based services that are now available.

This country was founded on innovation and we can become dominant again if we put ourselves back on that track to creation. With cooperation between private government, and charitable organizations, we should be able to dedicate more of our resources to developing new technologies with education, which will lead to the creation of jobs and will also spread prosperity.

During the 20th century, the U.S. was the leader of the industrialized world in the development of cutting-edge technologies. Now, we are falling behind at an alarming rate and other nations are taking our place.

According to the World Intellectual Property Organization, “U.S. technology companies, like Motorola and Hewlett-Packard, made sizable cuts to their research and development spending in 2009, after the outbreak of the global financial crisis. At the same time, many Chinese companies increased their R&D budgets by 25 to 45 percent.” At a time when private companies are cutting on research and development spending, the U.S. government needs to step in to prevent a total loss of brainpower.

Unfortunately, with the new Republican platform, it seems that the government will be allocating less money for research and development.

According to a New York Times article published on Nov. 3, 2010, “Research and development at nonmilitary agencies, which include those that sponsor science and health research, would fall 12.3 percent, to $57.8 billion. If money for research and development continues to diminish, the U.S. will not have the capability to succeed in this competitive global market.”

The future of the U.S. is in peril and the window of opportunity will not remain open. If we don’t focus our attention on education and technological development, other countries will do it for us.

Open campus policy a major liability

JASMYN ELLIOTT
Asst. Opinion Editor

The University is constantly touting the importance of remaining safe on campus grounds. However, the open campus layout seems to contradict this message, as it gives such easy access to outsiders.

Every so often, I worry about how easily a stranger from the street can gain access to the campus. Granted, such a system, or lack thereof, is convenient for University students as they don’t have to get past a security checkpoint.

However, this also makes it easy for an assailant, an angry former employee or any other violent character to enter the campus and cause all sorts of trouble, and even endanger the lives of students and staff if he or she wishes to engage in violent behavior.

Furthermore, this open campus policy has the potential to be detrimental to the University’s reputation. Oftentimes, unauthorized visitors come in the form of the friends of students who are not students of the University.

In the event they vandalize campus grounds or participate in disturbing behavior, like being too rowdy in the hallways or campus facilities, authorized visitors may attribute this bad behavior to students when such isn’t necessarily the case.

I have seen the consequences of this open campus system firsthand. At the Biscayne Bay Campus, I have encountered homeless people taking refuge on campus grounds and have experienced a few incidents by a few students who attempted to enter the campus with such ease and without any known consequence bothers me.

I am not saying that the University should build a fort or dig a moat around the campus. However, I do think that security should be more cognizant of who is on campus. At the very least, visitors should be required to sign in and show a proof of identification and a valid reason for their visit.

It may seem like a hassle, but if one really needs or wants to gain access to the University for an honest reason, showing proof of identification up front should not be a problem. If this is the procedure in the dorm rooms, then it should be standard procedure overall.

Also, in reference to the dorm room procedure, visitors should have an escort and security should have a record of such. This way, in the event the visitor engages in inappropriate behavior, both the visitor and his or her escort can be held accountable and punished. Also, students should be encouraged to report such incidents where the possibility of an unauthorized visitor is involved.

Furthermore, security should reserve the right to ask students to identify themselves, as all students usually keep their Panther I.D. card on their person. Even if the students don’t have an I.D., they can simply prove their identity by logging into their PantherID page. Barring that, their names are in a database and they can be looked up. Moreover, individuals who sneak past security should be punished accordingly.

These solutions may seem overly harsh and unnecessary, however, as members of the University we have a right to be aware of those on campus. If we exercised this right more frequently, then we would be working toward making our campuses safer.

UP IN SMOKE

Alexander Hetnomich Tepper, Left junior, mathematics, had this to say about the social enforcement of the smoking ban, which began Jan. 1: “If a student approached me and told me to stop smoking, it’s not that I wouldn’t take him seriously as a person, but, I would seriously tell him to get out of my face.”

-Compiled by Jasmyn Elliott.

PERSPECTIVES

Should FIU cease being an open campus for security reasons?

“Think that our location would make it difficult to implement something like that. It’s just more work. We have enough problems and issues to deal with; so we have enough internal issues before we bring that in.”

-Arielle Trujillo, Senior, Psychology

“Yes, we definitely should. Anyone can walk in and you never know who comes in looking for any trou-

-Jorge Vera, Sophomore, Business Management

“There have been a lot of computer thefts and I would assume that would be due to people outside of the Uni-

-Alex Sotto, Fremdaun, Statistics

-Compiled by Jasmyn Elliott.

The opinions expressed in the Beacon do not represent the views of the University’s Editorial Board. They are the opinions of the writer, and not of the Editorial Board, the University or the FIU community.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Get a problem with parking? Want to go buds to a class? Or do you just need to vent something you say about FIU? Send your thoughts to opinion@fi u.edu or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WIL 126. With a little effort, we can include your name, major and year.

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Friday, November 19, 2010
www.fi u.edu The Beacon – 7
Tourism Management on School of Hospitality and brought its search to the head chef position at one of chef Gordon Ramsey for the reality-cooking show on FOX which features 17 chefs competing in various culinary challenges under the tutelage of sharp-tongued celebrity chef Gordon Ramsey for the chance to win $50,000 and a head chef position at one of Ramsey’s new restaurants, brought its search to the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management on Nov. 16.

This is the first network casting call to be held on-campus, and, according to Mohammed Qureshi, assistant dean of HTM, the setup was mutually beneficial. “They had a place to conduct interviews, and we were able to connect with the community,” Qureshi said.

“Using casting setting, which did not employ any contract or monetary exchange, was also a ‘nice central location,’” said Johnson, a casting producer for the show. “We come to Miami because it has an abundance of culinary schools, music and personalities,” Jackson said. “We look for people who are compassionate about what they do.”

Throughout the day, about 100 people filtered through the interview system, most receiving an invite to return later in the day or a request to just submit a video to the L.A. headquarters later, a sign that they didn’t make it according to Johnson and the colleges, non-students. Todd Lollis and Bron White drove up from the Keys, where they own a seafood grill, for the audition. “We’re crazy enough to want to work for Gordon Ramsey,” said Lollis of his ambitions with the show. “Plus it’s a quarter-million dollars and a cushy job at a nice restaurant. Why not?”

Christian Poole, one of the clubs and organizations there will be doing their part to support the cause and raise money, Kaplan said.

Bay Vista Housing, Black Student Union, Student Alumni Association, Student Organizations Council, Student Programming Council, Students for the Poor, Haitian Student Organization, Catholic Student Union, and Hands on Miami-Haiti are some of the organizations that will be present. According to Shana Kaplan, SGC-BBC comptroller who chairs this event, the University and SGC-BBC have taken the initiative to create one night for students and the nearby community to unite for a good cause.

With the money earned from the fundraiser, The Food For All Organization and the Haitian community are able to build the tilapia pond, provide the tilapia larvae, build an irrigation system, as well as clean water wells. With the ability to farm fish, the village people can then sell the fish to other villages and provide food for themselves. This creates a domino effect and a healthy and sustainable economy.

Kaplan added the tilapia pond will help build a sustainable economy in the villages of Haiti. “By creating a sustainable economy, it ensures more financial security and confidence to the people and villages of Haiti by developing an ongoing source of income,” Kaplan said.

By visiting the website www.foodfortheoor.org, students can encourage their friends and family to donate to the development project. By clicking on the “FLU” link on the site, students can start a fundraising team, donate money, and even join a team already created. 96 cents of every dollar will go directly to the project. “I love the idea of people coming together for one cause,” Kaplan added.

The night’s opening ceremony will include three keynote speakers: Andre Pierre, mayor of North Miami; Angel Aloma, executive director of Food for the Poor.

“We will be doing their part to support the cause and raise money, Kaplan said.

“I will be speaking about my trip to Haiti, and also about what we can do to help Haiti in general,” said Aloma, who visited Haiti prior to the earthquake in 2009.

Aloma explained the organization works in 17 countries in the Caribbean, in which they aim for low-cost sustainability. “We want to focus not only on feeding the people, but teaching them to feed themselves,” Aloma said.

The event will also include recitals from the University’s own SPEG Poet club and a dance performance by the Haitian BBO Club.

The activities offered throughout the night will include live music from the Haitian jazz and rock band Emmett Addi & Rafta Rock, kayaking on the bay, laser tag, ball toss games, video games, dance lessons, an open-mic for spoken word, yoga, and a movie showing in the Mary Anne Wolfe Theatre.

The event will also host its first ever midnight pool party with a DJ.

Students must make sure to contact the Recreation Center at 305-919-5399 to register for kayaking and laser tag. There are limited spots available.

Different clubs will host tables to raise money for the event, by selling crafts and charging for the activities available.

For more information, visit www.foodfortheoor.org.