

**INNER ROCK STAR**  
Guitar Hero competition

**EXE-CUTE-TION**  
Dead bunnies not funny

**GRAB THAT FLAG**  
Play football on FIU's turf

**CLOSING IN**  
Volleyball near playoffs

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

OPINION PAGE 4

LIFE! PAGE 5

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## WALKING ON WATER



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**PEDALING:** Laura Jimenez, a sophomore, competes in the annual Architecture department's Walk on Water contest on Nov. 12 with her model that her teammate, Anamika Marynsingh built with her.

## HOMEcoming: UNIVERSITY PARK

# Court cancelled due to violation of campaign rules

**DAVID A. BARRIOS**  
Staff Writer

With no University Park Homecoming King and Queen announced during last week's football game, allegations of cheating from several members of the Homecoming Court-UP have spread throughout campus.

"Due to the overwhelming Internet accusations and alleged Box Top theft, the Homecoming Council took a vote and decided that it would be in the best interest of Homecoming to have no court for this year," said Dori-Ann Fernandez, director of the Homecoming Council. "It was a difficult decision and we recognize the hard work of the candidates."

Homecoming King and Queen are chosen through a scoring system in which a general election counts for 50 percent of the total while participation in the Box Top, Lip-synch and an interview make up the rest of the total.

During the Box Top for Education

Drive, UP candidates were asked to bring in as many box tops from cereal boxes as they could, with the winner being able to donate all the box tops to their local school of choice.

According to the rules on the application, no campaigning could be done on the Internet through MySpace, Facebook or e-mail servers. Violation of this rule would result in automatic disqualification.

"Some of the candidates got out of hand with the Internet campaigning. If we took every piece of information we received, either through e-mail, text message or word of mouth, all the candidates would have had some kind of violation except for two of them," said Andrea Kovachy, adviser to the Homecoming Council.

**The most disheartening part of last week was learning people were cheating during the philanthropy portion of the court race.**

Rachel Olmedo, *Queen candidate*  
Homecoming Court

"I believe that it's unfortunate that the Homecoming Court had to be cancelled, however, the Homecoming Council made the right decision because it was the only way to prevent the chaos from continuing," said Ivan Martinez, who was running for Homecoming

**HOMEcoming, page 2**

# University obtains extra funds for construction, restoration

**ELIZABETH NICKERSON**  
Staff Writer

The University received \$12.7 million for construction and renovation projects at University Park and Biscayne Bay Campus, according to the Board of Governors.

Paid by students through their tuition, the Capital Improvement Trust Fund fee is just one of two construction fees students pay at the beginning of each semester.

For each credit hour enrolled, a student pays \$2.44 for the CITF fee and \$2.32 for a building fee.

A full-time undergraduate student with 15 credit hours pays \$71.40 in CITF and building fees each semester.

According to Chris Kinsley, director of Finance and Facilities in the Board of Governors, the two fees are "effectively one program" that is set in state law for all state universities. Both fees have been

active since 1988.

The fees are used for construction of new buildings and renovation projects throughout the University.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, the University requested \$17.7 million for projects that include expansions and renovations at UP and BBC but only received \$12,703,456.

**FEES, page 2**

# Revised U.S. Sugar buyout to cost \$400 million less

**JESSICA GRESKO**  
AP Wire

Gov. Charlie Crist announced a revised plan for a historic Everglades restoration deal on Nov. 12.

The new plan comes on the eve of the 61-year anniversary of President Harry Truman's dedication of the Everglades National Park in December 1947.

"I am enormously proud to be able to follow in such great footsteps," Crist said.

Although relieved about the potential passage of the new plan, many students think it's about time something is getting done.

"I'm glad they've done something," said Gabriel Correa, a senior majoring in biology. "It's good that they've finally considered this because [the Everglades] is a completely

unique habitat. I would never be pressed to say that this is only a state issue. It's a national issue as well."

Details of the revised deal were released earlier in the week. The state will pay \$1.34 billion for land farmed by the U.S. Sugar Corp., the nation's largest producer of cane sugar, less than the original price tag of \$1.75 billion when the plan was announced in June. The revised deal will cost \$400 million less.

"Doing something this big is not easy," Crist said at a press conference at the historic home of Everglades activist Marjory Stoneman Douglas. "It's hard to envision in the first place, and then it's hard to work through the details."

Whether easy or not, Ryan Vogel, a junior majoring in environmental studies and park

management, has been reading up on the Everglades restoration projects and thinks the plan can't come soon enough.

"The land [used by U.S. Sugar Corp.] is not very useful," said Vogel, also a member of Students for Environmental Action. "It will take at least 10 years to get that soil to become even remotely sustainable again."

Gov. Crist emphasized that the revised plan will cost the state less and will save jobs.

The lower price is possible because the State will not buy the company's high-tech mill, railroad lines or citrus processing plant.

For Vogel, money shouldn't be an issue in the first place.

"I'm hoping, personally, that the federal government will step in to help buy the sugar

land," he said.

Though the State won't have access to the land right away, it plans to use most of the 181,000 acres it is buying to restore the natural flow of water to the Everglades and to create a system to clean the water being sent there.

The deal is expected to be approved next month by the South Florida Water Management District and U.S. Sugar. but the earliest date available to take possession of any land is Dec. 2009, according to U.S. Sugar Vice President Robert Coker.

Crist did not set a number of the total acres that will eventually go to conservation. Some will likely be retained for farming.

Additional reporting by Daniella Bacigalupo.

**NEWS FLASH**

FIU

**Organic Market opening on campus in December**

Stempel Public Health Association member Nancy Maidique is presenting the FIU Organic Farmer's Market, set to kick off on Dec. 3 between the central fountain and the Green Library.

The Organic Farmer's Market's purpose is to educate the community to improve their eating behavior for a healthier option, said SPHA President Jesus Medina in an e-mail to *The Beacon*.

Also, it will support the local farmers for a constant production of organic vegetables and fruits to prevent diseases related to pesticides.

The market will be open to all the Miami-Dade County community.

**United Way auction hoping to raise funds**

The 2008 United Way auction will be held on Nov. 21 at the Marc Pavilion. The auction runs from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., but the live auction begins at 6:30 p.m.

Students can purchase tickets at MARC 430, CSC 350, Graham Center main office or Health Life Services Building II room 464 for \$5, cash only.

All proceeds benefit the FIU-United Way 2008 campaign, according to an e-mail sent to *The Beacon* by the office of University and Community Relations.

**University names new Art Museum director**

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum has recently named Carol Damian as its new director and chief curator.

Damian, a professor and curator of the Frost Museum since 2006, has been interim director since April.

The massive new building, which will house the museum's permanent collection of 6,000 works, opens on Nov. 29 and includes five exhibitions with artwork not only from its permanent collection but also the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

The center has grown a great deal from a simple art collection to a new massive 46,000 square foot complex.

**Honors society holds raffle for 'Twilight' movie**

The University chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society, is raffling away two tickets for the midnight showing of the soon to be released hit-movie "Twilight."

The club will be tabling in the Graham Center on November 10, 12-14 and 17-18. The club will be raffling away tickets for the midnight showing in Kendall Village Mall on Thursday, Nov. 20 and Fri Nov. 21. For more information, contact Annette Estrada at [astr004@fiu.edu](mailto:astr004@fiu.edu).

According to its Council of Student Organizations Web site, Sigma Tau Delta is looking for students hoping to improve their writing and reading abilities.

*-Compiled by Julio Menache*

# Royal hopefuls disqualified after using the Web for campaigning

**HOMECOMING, page 1**

King for UP. "Hopefully next year everyone will conduct themselves in a better manner and we can get back to the real reason for Homecoming, which is supporting FIU."

Rachel Olmedo, who was running for Homecoming Queen at UP, felt the same way, stating that she was in agreement with the Council's decision.

"The most disheartening part of last week was learning that people were cheating for the philanthropy portion of the court race," Olmedo said. "By then a serious line had been crossed. I was shocked to see how low people would go in order to win."

The Homecoming voting was cancelled to stop the "angst and frustration" many students felt because of the cheating, according to Director of Campus Life Eric E. Arneson.

"Several members of the court actually dropped out and withdrew their names from the competition," Arneson said. "So the Homecoming committee decided that there was too much animosity between different student orga-



JOSEPH KOSANKE/THE BEACON

**TICK TOCK:** Students wait in line in the Graham Center to vote for Homecoming King and Queen on Nov. 6.

nizations and groups."

Many students were shocked about what happened.

"Frankly, I've never seen anything like it," Kovachy said.

Kovachy went on to say that expectations for campaigning would most likely have to be adjusted, feeling that the election process should be more consistent, like Student Government's election process.

People wishing to participate in Homecoming Court were required to complete an application, have a minimum 2.74 GPA and be a full-time student.

Candidates also had to attend several Homecoming Week events like Lip-Sync, the Box Tops for Education drive and the Homecoming football game and parade.

Biscayne Bay Campus Homecoming Court elections went smoothly. Natalie Vera,

director of Panther Prowl, and G.C. Murray were named Queen and King.

Next year, students hope the UP Homecoming Court will replicate BBC's elections.

"We need to hold our community to a higher standard," Olmedo said. "That's exactly the message I believe the Homecoming Council is sending by cancelling Homecoming Court this year."

# BOG to discuss increase in tuition

**FEES, page 1**

The Legislature allocated \$5 million for the FIU Arena's lobby, reception area and rest rooms; \$1.5 million for the Wolfe University Center improvements on the second floor and projects for the playing fields and courts; \$703,456 for Graham Center expansions and \$5,703,456 for the UP stadium and student meeting rooms, according to the BOG Web site.

According to Kinsley, the allotment received for the CITF is dispersed evenly "to each university, but not every year. Usually every two to four years."

However, at an upcoming Nov. 20 meeting, the BOG will consider asking the Legislature for the flexibility to set CITF as a percentage of tuition.

On a June 26 newsletter, President Modesto A.

FIU receives \$4 million every four years, but their release of money depends on how long the state decides to hold the money.

Anthony Rionda, *Chief of Staff*  
Student Government Association-University Park

Maidique stated that a state bill allows the University to raise tuition by a maximum of 15 percent a year.

The BOG requests that the Legislature and Student Government Association approve individual projects.

"The allocation by law requires that SGA be consulted prior to the University requesting projects from the Board of Governors," Kinsley said. "My impression is that what is requested is what SGA has approved."

According to Chris Ponce, SGC-UP senator, SGA works with both the Florida Legislature and Board of

Governors to help fund restoration projects.

"SGA gives opinion and feedback of how money should be allocated," said Chief of Staff Anthony Rionda.

The amount of money that is given to each public state university depends on enrollment and per credit hours.

Larger universities receive larger allocations of CITF money.

According to Rionda, universities like the University of Florida and the University of Central Florida have a larger sum of money given to them by the state every two to four

years because those universities have about 50,000 full-time students enrolled.

"Usually, FIU receives \$4 million every four years, but their release of money depends on how long the state decides to hold the money," Rionda said.

Usually, the building that receives most of the CITF money is the Graham Center.

"The projects allocated by SGA are beneficial for students," Rionda said.

According to SGA, there are some perks to the building fees and CITF even though it makes up a percentage of student tuition,

According to Rionda, the meeting rooms, built from the CITF, will be finished in June and might be open for students to rent and for University activities like Relay for Life and the Miss FIU Pageant.



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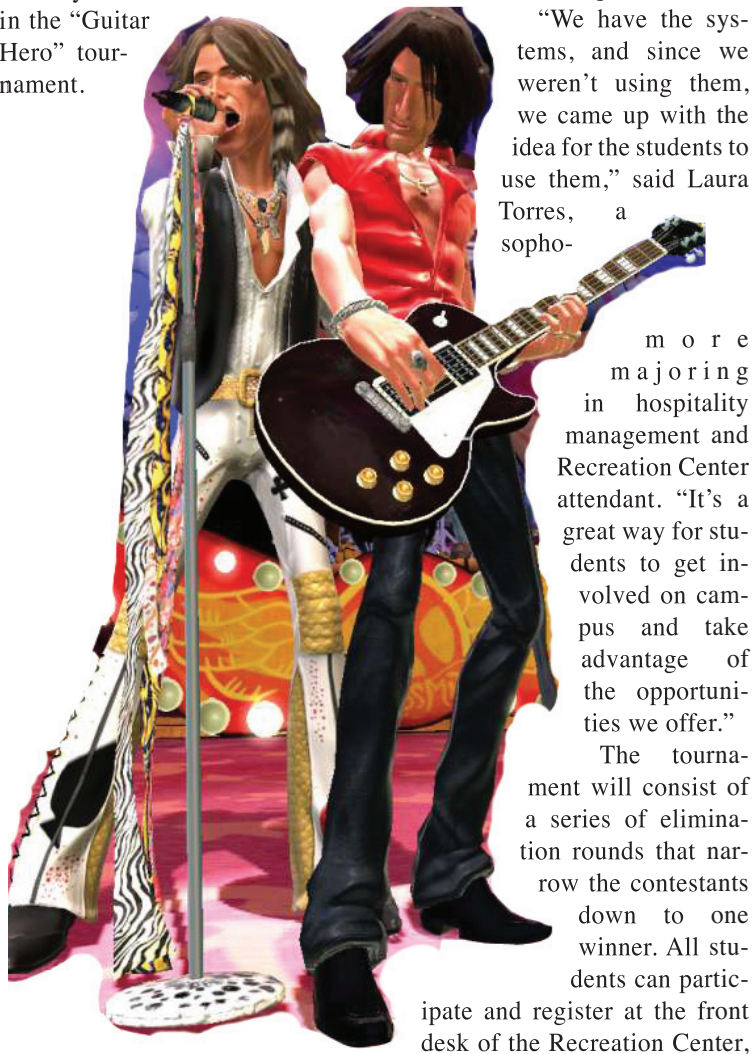
The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don't be shy.

Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124

## Tournament lets students unleash inner rock stars

**SHERVIN BAIN**  
Staff Writer

Low E, middle C, high A and other notes have been replaced with green, red, yellow, blue and orange in the video game "Guitar Hero," and students will now have the chance to showcase their hand-eye coordination in the "Guitar Hero" tournament.



Students who can neither party nor play guitar like rock stars can attempt to play like them when the Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center hosts a "Guitar Hero" tournament.

The event will take place Nov. 19 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center's Panther Square.

"We have the systems, and since we weren't using them, we came up with the idea for the students to use them," said Laura Torres, a sophomore

majoring in hospitality management and Recreation Center attendant. "It's a great way for students to get involved on campus and take advantage of the opportunities we offer."

The tournament will consist of a series of elimination rounds that narrow the contestants down to one winner. All students can participate and register at the front desk of the Recreation Center,

located in WUC 160. As of Nov. 10, 15 people have signed up, but students can still register on the day of the tournament.

## WATCHING BIG BROTHER



NATHAN VALTININ/THE BEACON

**STREAMING VIDEOS:** Christian Andrew, president of the Federal Jack organization, sets up a projector in the Wolfe University Center's Panther Square on Nov. 12 to present passerby students with the opposing viewpoints and theories on political and social issues.

"I play 'Guitar Hero' with my cousins sometimes, so I feel it would be fun to play with people my age," said Natalie Vera, a senior majoring in criminal justice who already registered for the tournament. "I can only play [on] easy, but we'll see what happens."

Aside from the tournament, "Mario Kart" and "Dance Dance Revolution" will be available for

free play.

Free pizza and drinks will also be served to participants.

"I think it will be a good turnout just because a lot of people like to play 'Guitar Hero,'" said Andrea Reynoso, a sophomore majoring in physical therapy. "It helps them get their minds off school."

The BBC Recreation Center has an Xbox, Xbox 360, Playstation 2, Playstation 3 and Wii for students to use, according to Torres. Available for all students, they are priced at \$5 an hour and \$8

for two hours per person using the system, which can be used in the aerobics room whenever the gym is open.

The winner of the tournament will get two free hours of any game on the game system of his or her choice.

"Beware other 'Guitar Hero' players. I'm going to beat everyone," Vera said.

For more information about the "Guitar Hero" tournament and FOR registration information visit WUC room 160 or call (305) 919-5678.

## Ideal spots for after-work blues complete with food, music

When I worked at Starbucks, my co-workers and I had a tradition of going to a sports bar to unwind after work. Some nights we would just sit in front of the store and relax with a cup of iced tea; anything to forget about the array of annoying customers that came into the store.

Now that I work at Victoria's Secret, my co-workers and I don't have any clock-out traditions, and I honestly miss it, but that doesn't mean that I cannot recruit my friends to unwind with me.

For those who want to get their energy back after work, head over to Paquito's Mexican restaurant, (16265 Biscayne Blvd.) This is a perfect place to unwind on a Saturday night.

The day I went, I had just finished a five-hour shift. My feet were killing me, and the last thing I wanted to do was to go out anywhere. But within seconds of walking into this restaurant, I got my energy back. It may sound odd, but stepping into Paquito's transports you to Mexico.

### WEEKENDS WITH PARADISE



PARADISE AFSHAR

The walls and the decorations are colorful, and the servers are dressed in traditional Mexican attire. Our server had on a light blue skirt, a white shirt and a blue scarf.

Sure the setting woke me up, but it was the music that helped me escape the stress of a long day of work. I don't speak a word of Spanish, but the sounds of the band drained all of the tiredness out of me.

The live band plays in the bar area, which is only for patrons 21 and over. If you're not of age,

don't worry; the music is loud enough that the sounds of the guitars can be heard perfectly if you sit in the front of the restaurant.

The yummy Mexican food and fun atmosphere makes Paquito's a great, high-energy place to unwind after work and get your spirits back up. I had a vegetarian tamale and nachos. The tamale was the best I've ever had, and for the first time ever, I didn't have to ask for spicy salsa for my nachos.

But sometimes energy is not what you are looking for after work. Those times, I just want to relax and complain about work nights, so I headed over to Hiro Japanese restaurant (3007 N.E. 163rd St.) I took my friend Beth with me after she got off of an eight-hour shift, and I had just closed at Victoria's Secret. Neither of us was in the mood to go out anywhere crazy; we just wanted a light meal, and I wanted to forget

about the horrors of helping women try on bras.

The mood at Hiro is very mellow and tranquil, with soft jazz music playing in the background and warm colors around the restaurant.

There is a lounge for those who are not hungry but want to have some drinks. The flat-screen TVs hanging on the walls totally aid in the escape process everyone craves after work.

We both shared two sushi rolls. Beth had hers with one of the coolest drinks I have ever heard of: a green tea martini. She said the drink was interesting, and that it complemented the sushi perfectly.

We both left Hiro having forgotten about work and the stresses that came with it.

Paquito's closes at midnight on weekends, and Hiro is open until 3:30 a.m. every night. So no mat-

ter when your shift ends, there is no excuse not to head over there.

I know how annoying it can be when your friends bug you about going out when you have just gotten off of work. The only thing on your mind is to go home, get into your jammies and sleep. But fight the urge.

I used to go straight home from work after my shifts, with no time left to vent about the day. I had no time to relax, and it made me despise going to work even more. Now that I have these places, there is no reason for my weekend shifts to end as poorly as they used to.

*Weekends with Paradise is a bimonthly column about North Miami night life. If you have any suggestions for places I could visit e-mail me at paradise.afshar@fiusm.com.*

# BUNNY BAN

## Dead bunnies cause literary uproar

**JASMYN ELLIOT**  
Contributing Writer

Can suicide be funny?

The answer is no if you were to ask Taffey Anderson, a mother living in Halsey, Ore. According to an Oct. 20 *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* article, when her 13-year-old son brought home a copy of the comic book "The Bunny Suicides" from his school library, she forbade him to return it under the premise that she didn't want any more children exposed to its content. As of now, the book has been returned and she is taking legal measures to have it banned from the library.

The book is a popular set of drawings showing a rabbit attempting suicide in peculiar and dark ways such as ironing itself, jumping through plane turbines and playing tether ball with a hand grenade.

The author, Andy Riley, started the series in 2003 as he was prompted by friends who said that these drawings were funny - to them, at least.

The book is meant to be taken as a harmless joke. However, Anderson claims the book could influence young children to act out the depictions in the book, thus causing serious injury to themselves.

Anderson may have a point in asking for the book's removal.

Several libraries in the U.S. have already pulled it from their shelves. Furthermore, a book salesman in Shanghai removed the book after he learned that several children attempted suicide through its influence. At least one child died.

There is no doubt that children are impressionable, and that media violence has at least some effect on them.

In 1963, psychologist Albert Bandura conducted a landmark laboratory experiment that di-

vided four groups of 100 preschool-aged children and showed them varying degrees of violence taken out upon a doll. When the children were exposed to that same doll, the three experimental groups acted with hostility toward it while the control group, which was not exposed to any imagery, didn't display any violent behavior.

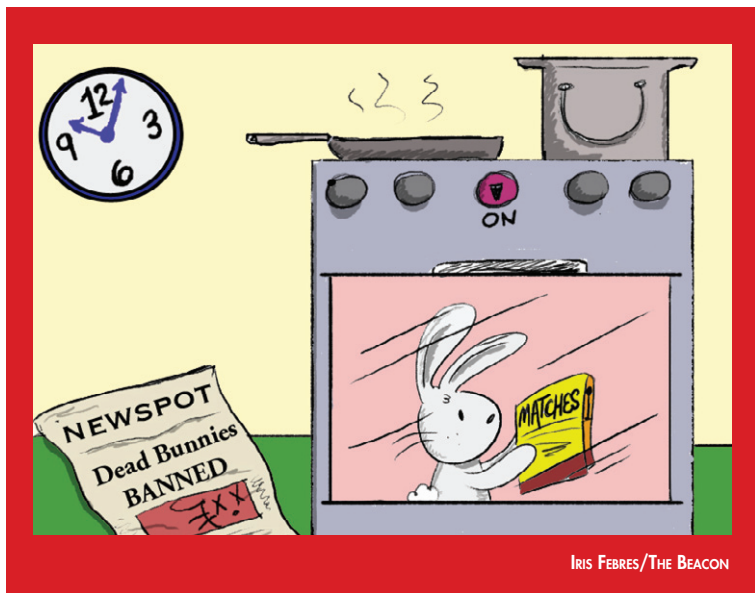
Additionally, a study in 2003 done by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that 47 percent of children between the ages of four and six displayed violent behavior after watching violence displayed in cartoons.

Teenagers are also influenced by violence. In 2002, Jeffrey Johnson of Columbia University conducted an experiment that

Although we cannot say that "The Bunny Suicides" has produced a pandemic of mass suicides, one thing is clear: despite the odd methods of self-injury, it did cause a few children to act irrationally.

Perhaps Anderson was wrong in removing the book vigilante style, but she did so because she realized the effect it could have on not only her son, but on other children who read it.

Getting a book removed from the library is one of those things that conjures images of a Bradbury-esque or Orwellian era state of censorship, but just perhaps there are certain materials that should be kept out of the hands of easy public reach, for safety's sake.



pointed out that teens between the ages of 14 and 16 who watched one to three hours of violent TV on a daily basis would be 60 percent more prone to assault others than those who watched less or none at all.

By connecting these studies with the issue at hand, this ultimately proves the book will cause all children who read it to commit suicide.

Hopping Mad?  
Post your thoughts  
on [fiusm.com](http://fiusm.com) or  
send your letters to  
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## Automobile giants face job losses, bailout

**KEVIN CASTRO**  
Staff Writer

Millions of Americans could lose their jobs if General Motors and its competitors do not manage their industry efficiently. Once again the American automotive industry held its hands out to the United States Treasury asking for money, this time for a \$50 billion loan.

"The proposed loan can support the companies to bridge over hard-times," said professor Mira Wilkins of the Economics department.

This loan raises several questions. First, why should we help the American automobile industry? Is it really in the best interest of the country and economy to continue to support their failing business model?

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, GM lost more than \$5.6 billion on its North American automotive operations in 2005, while Ford dropped \$5.5 billion on its North American automotive operations. Their market shares have been declining for years. The total automotive employment in the United States increased by 8 percent from 1991 to 2005, rising from 1,054,000 workers to 1,098,000.

But the drop from the number of employees in 2000 over the ensuing five years to 2005's level represents a decline of 16 percent, with a total loss of 215,500 jobs.

Why don't we allow the U.S. automobile industry to die? Simple: a massive amount of unemployment would occur. Not just the 1,098,000 that work for GM, Ford or Chrysler; but the millions of people who depend on the automobile industry, such as suppliers and dealers. The automotive parts industry would suffer immensely if any of the "Big Three" to go down.

The U.S. Department of Commerce states that the foreign-affiliated assemblers and their associated parts companies now employ 63,000 U.S. workers. This number has shown a steady increase (up 52 percent since 1995), but is far below the number of jobs already lost by the industry. This means that we cannot expect foreign automobile firms to replace the jobs left in the void by our companies.

Wilkins said, "We need to support this industry, but we need to support it in a responsible manner. The recipient company should be very clear as to how it is going to use the money."

As long as the company uses the money responsibly, it should help the economy greatly, as to prevent massive unemployment.

It is believed that these automobile giants are too big or too important to fail due to their massive labor force. But how massive is their labor force relative to other American companies? It may be surprising that the following companies employ a larger number of workers than GM: Target, AT&T, General Electric, IBM, McDonalds, Citigroup, Sears and Wal-Mart.

So the big question is: "Once we cross the divide from financial institutions to individual corporations, truly, where would you draw the line?" said Republican Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama.

Should we bailout all of those 12 companies as well, if the need arises? If Wal-Mart, with 2 million plus employees, requested loans from the U.S. Treasury; would they receive as much attention and sympathy as the automotive industry? It is unethical to force taxpayers to pay billions of dollars in order to bail out a company with a failing business model. After all, they cannot even claim, as banks did, that it is an industry-wide problem. Because if it were industry-wide, Toyota, Hyundai, Honda, Volkswagen, etc. would all be asking for loans as well.

"The economy is very dependent on the automobile industry and has been for many years," Wilkins said.

New automobile firms aren't established overnight. It takes a very long time to get into the business. Thus we should not allow the automobile industry to fail.

Not every industry is the same; each one will react differently to a bankruptcy. Only if the industry is imperative to the U.S. economy should we assist them.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, industry employment is headed downward and is not likely to recover for several years, if ever.

Some declines are undoubtedly the result of improved worker efficiency and productivity, but most losses are the product of the declining fortunes of America's two largest motor vehicle producers and the supplier base that relies on them for business.

## STEP ONTO THE SOAPBOX

Officer of a student organization? Student government member? University official? Have something to say?

Contact us at [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com) and we'll give you 500 words to share your opinion with the FIU community.

# KICKING OFF

## Flag football tournament supports the United Way

**DIANA JORDAN**  
Staff Writer

The University community will once again come together for a charitable cause on Nov. 15, at the FIU Stadium for a flag football tournament.

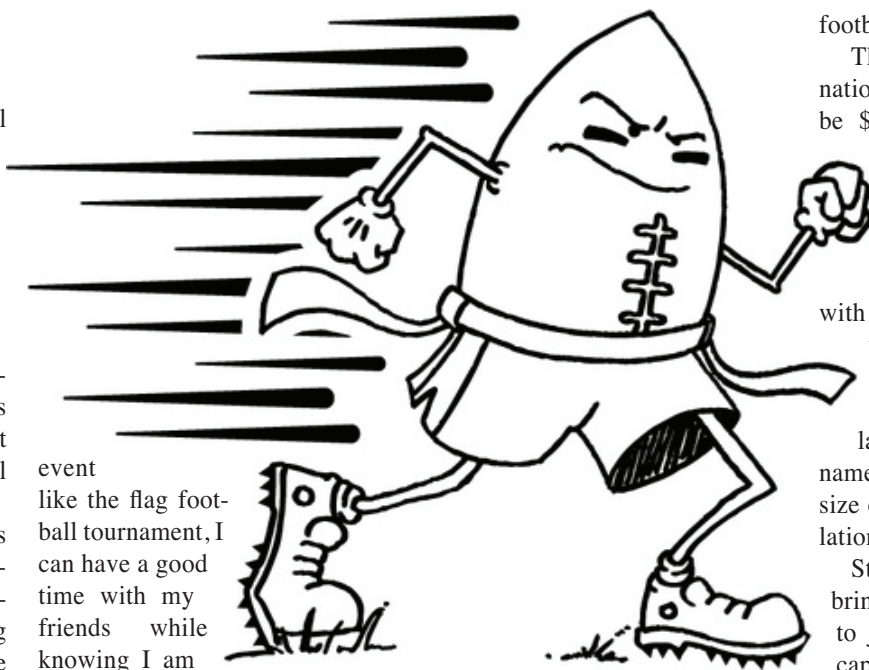
The event will be hosted by the Student Government Association and will kick off at 9 a.m.

This sporting event will be unlike others because the proceeds generated from the tournament will go to the United Way and all 139 programs it benefits.

The United Way concentrates its efforts on aiding underprivileged children and youth throughout the community by promoting financial stability, independence and health. Its goal is to gear youth in the right direction while providing the foundation for a successful life.

When addressing the underlying problems that occur everyday, the organization works to incorporate everyone in the community.

"I think FIU's work with the United Way is important because it allows [students] an opportunity to work with a philanthropy," said Valeska Rodriguez, a freshman business major. "By going to an



event like the flag football tournament, I can have a good time with my friends while knowing I am making a difference in someone's life."

Through incorporating government officials, large business corporations, nonprofit organizations and ordinary citizens, advancing the common good is all in a day's work for the United Way, which counts major National Corporate Leadership Companies such as Target, Allstate, Bank of America and Eastman Kodak Company among its sponsors.

The National Football League

is also a sponsor, who has donating thousands of dollars and countless hours of community service as well.

"FIU's affiliation with organizations such as the United Way is a winning situation for all," said Natalia Santiago, a sophomore education major. "Since we are such a large institution, our students can definitely make a difference in the lives of others by simply participating in the upcoming flag

football tournament."

The tournament's starting donation per seven-person team will be \$40. Teams are encouraged, however, to donate as much as possible and be sponsored by businesses or corporations, if possible.

The games will be played with a seven-on-seven player setup, although each team is allowed to carry ten players.

Standard intramural regulations will apply to the tournament with the exception of the size of the playing field and regulation timing.

Students are encouraged to bring friends from other schools to join a team but each team's captain must be a FIU student currently enrolled in classes.

"Being able to bring people from outside the University was a good idea. This could have been a deterrent to some people and, in the end, the more people helping this cause, the better," said Billy Gil, senior accounting major.

In addition, all players must sign a liability form and the team's captain must assume all responsibility for his or her teammates.

Golden Panthers are encouraged to participate in any way

possible either as players or as spectators.

"The United Way is a fantastic organization and giving a little bit of our pocket change will go a very long way for a lot of people who are not as fortunate as us," says Helena Ramirez, Student Outreach director and member of the United Way Steering Committee.

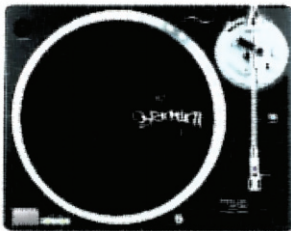
"The FIU community will pull through and make this a great event like we always do," says Carmen Sarduy, a freshman psychology major.

With large anticipated donations and Panther enthusiasm, the event is expected to culminate as one of the highlights of this semester's charitable events, making it a great way for FIU students to do their part for those in need while enjoying themselves.

Natasha Piñeiro, a psychology major, says, "Events like these bring our school together and give us an opportunity to aid a worthwhile cause. There are too many problems in the world for our generation to sit back and wait for others to create change."

For more information, visit [UnitedWay.FIU.edu](http://UnitedWay.FIU.edu).

## DJ PROFILES



# Radiate FM hosts Animal Party

**SHANNON FALLON**  
Staff Writer

Sporting a flannel shirt, sneakers and a small curly fro hauling in from a late dinner, Ryan Morejon is anything but your typical mainstream DJ.

His specialty show, Animal Party in Nautica, airs Tuesday nights with an array of electronic post-rock. When he's not busy spinning to the sounds of electronica, you'll find him busy as the music director for the University's student radio station, Radiate FM (88.1, 95.3 and 96.9 FM).

"I try and keep it fresh, the most I'll ever have anything on rotation is maybe two months, if not, it gets stale," said Morejon.

As music director for the radio station, Morejon has his work cut out for him.

He spends his days critiquing artists and music from the many national distributors, coordinating pre-mixes for the station or picking the best of the best to air on rota-

tion, even reporting to the College of Music's journal of the station's top records.

His almost shy demeanor vanished instantaneously when music was brought up. Starting at the station over a year ago as a rotation DJ, Morejon found his appreciation for the art of music.

His current favorites include lo-fi garage rock, poorly recorded rock and tropicalia, emerging from a Brazilian art movement of the '60s, even ambient music which incorporates numerous elements of music such as Explosions in the Sky, a Texan instrumental group.

"Last year I really started to get into music. It was when I started working here," he said. "I would only relate to a certain type of music and once you get in here you're exposed to so many types of music, you have no idea."

As music director, Morejon listens to countless CDs and artists, but finds that the least accessible of them has to be noise, an alternative form of sound art. Morejon says

it's something he enjoys.

"Noise is very Avant-garde," he said.

As a journalism major, Morejon gets to put his studies to the test, but it isn't something he believes he'll continue with in the future, though he may get into music distribution and promotions with one of the labels, which takes on a different aspect of the music industry.

Listeners call in occasionally, requesting top 40 songs, but as a University radio station, Radiate "represents what's not being played at the more popular commercial stations," which is what makes the station unique and sets it apart from many of the mainstream stations.

When asked what he likes to talk about on the show, Morejon likes to keep it simple with music, TV or general topics that are accessible to everyone.

He strays away from the controversial issues of politics and religion, feeling that they aren't appropriate to discuss on air.

## GET IN MY BELLY



WEN-JU CHIEN / THE BEACON

**YUMMY:** Senior staff from Housing and Residential Life ask graduate students about their experience of living on campus this semester on Nov. 6 in FreshFood Company.

## REVIEWS (YOU CAN USE)

## MOVIE

Quantum of Solace ★★★★★

## First-ever Bond sequel pays homage to its predecessors

STEVE MESA  
Staff Writer

His name is Bond. James Bond. As the sixth actor to fill the shoes of agent 007, Daniel Craig returns in his second outing as Bond in "Quantum of Solace".

As the first movie in the Bond franchise to become a direct sequel to accommodate its predecessor, "Quantum of Solace" picks up where "Casino Royale" left off.

The film opens with Bond being chased by a couple of thugs in a car chase that seems reminiscent of the car chases from the "Bourne" franchise.

After quickly dispatching them, it is revealed that he has Mr. White (Jesper Christensen), the man responsible for the death of Bond's love, in the trunk of his car.

As Bond tries to uncov-

er the organization that backs Mr. White, he teams up with a beautiful Bolivian woman (Olga Kurylenko) with a vendetta to stop an environmentalist (Mathieu Amalric) from controlling the world's water supply.

Daniel Craig is the best actor to play James Bond in the franchise, no offense to fans of the 007 franchise who would prefer Sean Connery or Roger Moore.

I think what really makes his performance significant in this movie is that he plays Bond not just as a rugged man who gets his hands dirty, but as a man who lost the love of his life due to tragic circumstances.

There are certain events throughout the movie that make every relationship Bond has a metaphorical virus, everything he

touches dies. Bond's vulnerability becomes his main weakness.

During a confrontation with Bond's boss, M (Judi Dench), she says to Bond, "I think you're so blinded by inconsolable rage that you don't care who it hurts."

He does balance himself between the fine line of duty and revenge, sometimes being pushed to the latter.

The action scenes from "Quantum of Solace" can be easily compared to those from the Jason Bourne movies. There is a rooftop chase sequence that seems like it was ripped off from the other rooftop chase sequence that took place in "The Bourne Ultimatum".

I respect this movie because it becomes a throwback to the previous Bond movies, such as

"Goldfinger". The opening title sequence to "Quantum of Solace" pays tribute to earlier Bond films by featuring silhouettes of nude women.

The organization that Bond is seeking information about in this film is known as QUANTUM. This becomes a throwback to SPECTRE, the organization that became responsible for villains like Dr. No, Rosa Klebb, Red Grant and Ernst Stavro Blofeld.

Last, but not least, the dead body of a beautiful woman is found in Bond's hotel covered in oil, a reference to a similar discovery in "Goldfinger," in which both bodies were found in similar locations and positions.

"Quantum of Solace" has everything a fan of Bond can want in a Bond film: great action, an amazing performance from Daniel Craig and many direct homages to the earlier Bond films.

Freshman  
reflects on  
Homecoming

Homecoming week back in high school was always eventful. We would have a different theme each day of the week where we would dress up.

At the end of the week, we would have a spirit day, in which everyone would show up to school all spirited. My high school's colors were purple and white, so on that day, all you would see was a sea of purple and white. The day would end with a large pep rally in the gym, followed by the Homecoming football game.

The week would culminate on Saturday with a semi-formal dance at a nice banquet hall.

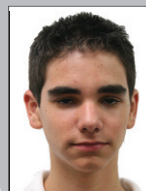
Little did I know the University's Homecoming would be nothing like that. Homecoming here runs on a much larger budget. The week was full of events that led up to the Homecoming football game, much like high school. This year's theme was Hollywood movies.

At the Lip-sync event, several different groups performed dance numbers, making it a competition of some sort. The next event the following day was called Panther Prowl, a comedy show in which we had comedians such as Tony Rock and Ralphie May perform. It had to be the most elaborate comedy show I have ever been to in my life. When the University wants to do something, they do it big.

There was no event the next day because it was election day - for the King and Queen that is. The computer lab in GC was open for those who wanted to vote for their Homecoming King and Queen. Those who voted were given a sticker that read "I voted for K&Q," which guaranteed a free pizza. I'll take free food any day. Soon enough, I was wearing my very own "I voted for K&Q" sticker while munching on a pizza.

The parade was on Nov. 7. Every group that had performed at the Lip-synch had built a float fitting to the Homecoming theme. I had never seen homemade floats like the ones that were displayed at the parade. They were driven around the perimeter of the University, along with convertibles that were driving the Homecoming candidates around. After the parade was FIU Ultra. I had never seen so many people dancing, socializing and having fun at the University until then.

Finally, on Saturday Nov. 8, came the last Homecoming event: the Golden Panthers' football game. The stadium's student section was packed. Everyone was decked out in their FIU gear and cheering on our team. The pride was overwhelming. With the students' support and an amazingly lucky play by "T.Y. Goodbye," the Golden Panthers won 22 to 21. This Homecoming showed that the University does have pride and knows how to have a good time.

REAL FRESHMAN  
EXPERIENCEJASON  
CACERES

Hey you,  
Yeah, you. Read these, and welcome back "My Cousin Tony" and his cousin with the weird accent. Then laugh. That's right. You know you want to.

—Jonathan Davila, Life! Editor

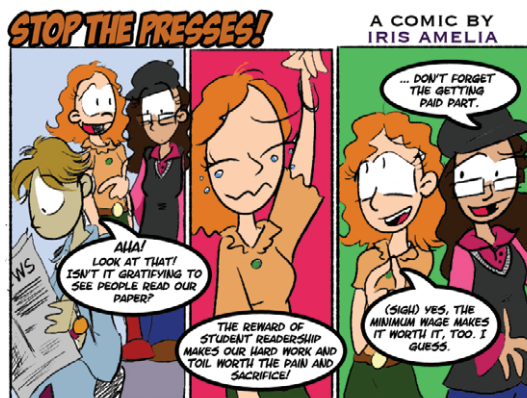
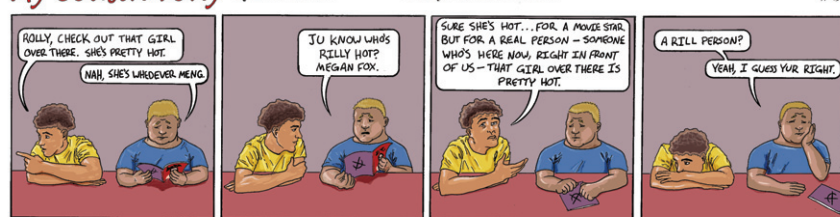


## diversions

My Cousin Tony by Alex Ferrer

Rolly's Broken Heart

# 3



## WEEKEND CALENDAR

FRIDAY • NOVEMBER  
14

WHAT: SPC Movie: The Incredible Hulk  
WHERE: GC 140  
WHEN: 7 & 10 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: Spring's Awakening  
WHERE: FIU WPAC Main Stage  
WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$10 Students, Alumni, and Seniors. \$12 General Admission

WHAT: Music Saves Lives: Acoustic Coffee House  
WHERE: Starbucks in Doral. 10690 NW 19th Street  
WHEN: 6:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: The Aquabats  
WHERE: The Culture Room. 3045 North Federal Highway. Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33306  
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Prices Vary

WHAT: FIU Women's Basketball Opening Night  
WHERE: FIU Arena  
WHEN: 6 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE w/ valid FIU Student ID

WHAT: FIU Men's Basketball Opening Night  
WHERE: FIU Arena  
WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE w/ valid FIU Student ID

\*Listen to Radiate FM for live game coverage on 88.1, 95.3, 96.9 FM.

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER  
15

WHAT: Spring's Awakening  
WHERE: FIU WPAC Main Stage  
WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$10 Students, Alumni, and Seniors. \$12 General Admission

WHAT: Preview Movie Tickets for Twilight  
WHERE: Sunset Place Mall: Hot Topic (2nd Level)  
WHEN: 6 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Prices Vary

WHAT: Diwali 2008  
WHERE: Julius Littman Performing Arts Center. 17011 NE 19th Avenue North Miami Beach, FL 33162  
WHEN: 6:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$10 presale, \$15 at the door

WHAT: Diwali 2008 After Party  
WHERE: Studio: 1801 Collins Avenue Miami Beach Florida 33139  
WHEN: 11 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$10 at the door

WHAT: FIU Volleyball v. FAU  
WHERE: FIU Arena  
WHEN: 7 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE w/ valid FIU Student ID

\*Listen to Radiate FM for game live coverage on 88.1, 95.3, 96.9 FM.

SUNDAY • NOVEMBER  
16

WHAT: Spring's Awakening  
WHERE: FIU WPAC Main Stage  
WHEN: 2 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$10 Students, Alumni, and Seniors. \$12 General Admission

WHAT: Bachaco: Latin Reggae Fusion  
WHERE: The Van Dyke Cafe. 846 Lincoln Road. Miami Beach, FL 33139  
WHEN: 9 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Prices Vary

WHAT: Daughter of a Cuban Revolutionary  
WHERE: William and Joan Lehman at MDC North Campus. 11380 27th Avenue. Miami, FL 33167  
WHEN: 3 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Ticket Prices Vary

WHAT: International Caribbean Music Festival  
WHERE: Virginia Key Beach Park. 3861 Rickenbacker Causeway Miami, FL 33149  
WHEN: TBD  
HOW MUCH: \$30

Compiled by: Paulo O'Swath

# Loss prevents tournament hopes

**JONATHAN ALPERT**  
Asst. Sports Director

It was a disquieting Senior Day for the FIU men's soccer team, on Nov. 7 at the University Park campus, as they took on the Southern Methodist University Mustangs.

The Golden Panthers needed a tie or win to shape a happy ending in their last regular season and home game, and qualify for the conference tournament.

The team was hoping to kick off another late season Cinderella story similar to last year's when they beat then ranked No. 5 SMU in the first round of their C-USA tournament.

However, Golden Panthers' senior duo, Corey Kendall and Phil Fisher, had their hopes of appearing in a final college tournament shattered in the grueling 2-1 loss.

"It's disappointing. It's never the way you want to go out, especially after last year when we nearly made our Cinderella story come true," said Fisher. "We worked hard all season and we just didn't take care of business. I just hope that improvement is the word [for next season]."

Although Fisher seemed frustrated with the team's results, he did score the lone goal for FIU in the 17 minute, totaling three for him this year. It was Diego Tamburus, a junior mid-fielder, who sent

the ball in from the right side for the assist, marking his third of the season, which is just one away from Juan Guerra who led the team this season with four.

The Mustangs seemed to scratch their way back into the game quite quickly, as it took just two minutes after FIU took the 1-0 lead for Leone Cruz of SMU to score a headed goal to tie the match. The assist came from Kekoa Osorio on a cross pass from just outside the box.

The Mustangs continued their momentum as they went on to score an unassisted goal, the game winner, early in the second half by SMU senior Jeff Harwell.

"This was disappointing in the sense that we were controlling our own destiny," said head coach Munga Eketebi. "We had an opportunity and we didn't grab it."

FIU controlled its own destiny, however the question of effectiveness seemed doubtful and missed opportunities abounded.

FIU was whistled for total of 20 fouls and the Mustang defense held them to just 8 shots. The most surprising of the game was probably the total of six yellow cards, four on FIU and two red cards, one called on the home team, which created quite an intense, heated ambiance throughout the match. FIU would lose Dane Smith and Steven Jabar Cabais to the red, and that would turn out quite detrimental for a



FERNANDO GARCIA/BEACON FILE PHOTO

**FAREWELL:** Senior Phill Fisher played his last game against SMU on Nov. 7.

team that lacked precision when key players could not fill their normal duties.

FIU ended the night in farewell to Phil & Corey, both effective seniors. The Golden Panthers finished the season with a record of 4-11-2 and 2-6 in C-USA.

"We are a better team at the end of the year, definitely," Eketebi said.

# Women's basketball drop exhibition

**JONATHAN ALPERT**  
Asst. Sports Director

The women's basketball team opened the season against Barry University on Nov. 5 at the FIU Arena. It was the first and only exhibition game of the season for the Golden Panthers.

The Division II Buccaneers, under head coach Bill Sullivan, created enough offensive and defensive plays to pull out a 54-40 win.

The Golden Panthers were held to only 19 points in the first half. Returning leading scorer Monika Bosilj went 0-for-4 in field goal attempts and 0-for-3 from the 3-point line.

Lack of college experience by new players in the back court was evident. Sophomore transfer point guard Michelle Gonzalez recorded five turnovers and made only one of four field goal attempts in the first half.

"It is hard as a new point guard coming in," said Gonzalez, "But as the season goes on, we will all be able to work together better and score more points."

Although FIU held a 16-15 lead with only five minutes to play in the first half, Barry closed the opening half with a 15-3 run to take a 30-19 lead into halftime.

The Golden Panthers' field goal percentage in the first half was 26.9 percent (7-for-26).

The Bucs moved into the second half, continuing their run by scoring the first five points.

Leading the Bucs was Lucy Martinez, who led all scorers with 17 points.

On the other side, junior forward Marquita Adley led FIU with 12 points.

The Golden Panthers trailed the Bucs 48-38 with less than three minutes in the game but second half steals prevented the panthers from scoring and minimizing the Bucs' lead.

Barry finished with 12 steals and forced the Golden Panthers to turn over the ball 18 times.

While some new players looked polished in their first college minutes, others made mistakes that gave the Bucs more opportunities to score.

Freshman guard Asia Wilson, a



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**NEW LOOK:** Newcomer Michelle Gonzalez cruises up the court.

freshman out of Lake Mary High School, scored four points in her first Division I game. However, a lack of communication on the Golden Panther side was the biggest contributor to the 14-point loss.

"This game was my first time playing with my team and that made it hard to communicate," Gonzalez said.

The Golden Panthers will host University of Wisconsin-Green Bay on Nov. 14.

The Phoenix finished last season with a 26-6 overall record, and a 17-1 mark in the Horizon League that won the conference by six games over Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

FIU will have to communicate far better and prevent turnovers if they plan to compete with the powerful Phoenix.

# Golden Panthers sloppy vs. FGCU

**VOLLEYBALL, page 8**

timeout. When FGCU rallied to within one, 17-16, Tomic responded with a timeout of her own.

With FIU leading 21-20, two straight FIU points on Valentin serves prompted FGCU to use their second and final timeout of the set. With FIU leading 24-22, Gaby Jaimes notched the match-clinching kill to give the Golden Panthers the three set sweep 25-22, 25-20, and 25-22.

Rosa scored her 18 double-double of the season with 26 kills and 14 digs. Andrea Lakovic and Gaby Jaimes each notched 7 kills a piece.

Valentin finished assisting on 25 points. Despite the win, Tomic was critical of the team's all around performance. "Yarimar [Rosa] basically carried this whole team, I don't think we can ask her to do more than she did tonight," Tomic said. "If we want to win the [Sun Belt] championship, we can't do it with one player."

"This was so below their level of play that we're

going to be in big trouble if they don't wake up and step up [against FAU on Saturday]." Tomic added.

## COMING UP

FIU will take on FAU at the FIU Arena on Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. An FIU win propels them to the regular season Sun Belt Championship, and the number one seed in the conference tournament.

FIU leads the Sun Belt East Division with a 25-5 record, and is 14-2 in conference play. FAU enters the game 12-16 overall, 5-11 in conference, tied for eighth place in the Sun Belt with South Alabama.

With an FAU win and South Alabama loss, FAU earns a spot in the Sun Belt tournament.

The top eight teams in the conference earn a spot in the tournament. (November 20-22 at FIU Arena).

Despite the differences in record, coach Tomic expects a tough match because of what both sides will be playing for; FIU a conference title and number one seed, and FAU a spot in the tournament.

# Johnson and Jones Drew disappoint

**ALPERT, page 8**

formance will have to learn their lesson; knee-jerk decisions are not always going to work out! Good luck next year Fast Willie!

**Biggest Surprise-** Rookie Running Backs Chris Johnson (Tennessee Titans)/ Matt Forte (Chicago Bears)

Can you believe two rookies rank in the top seven of fantasy running backs this year? Forte has been the heartbeat of the Bears offense, carrying them running and catching the ball out of the backfield. Johnson has been the lightning bolt of the NFL, sending shock waves throughout the league with his freakish combination of speed and strength. Johnson has scored under 10 points twice this year, and Forte hasn't dipped down to single digits once. These two rookies will be fighting for the offensive rookie of the year award and could be playing tug of war with the MVP and Lombardi Trophies in the upcoming years.

**Biggest disappointment** - Cincinnati Bengals Wide Receiver Chad Ocho Cinco. Chad should consider changing his name back to Johnson, he was putting up way better numbers when he

was known by his surname, and not his number in another language. He only has four touchdowns on the year, and has exceeded 10 points twice all year. Johnson and the Bengals have had forgettable years. See you next year Chad.

**Most Consistent-** Washington Redskins Running Back Clinton Portis

He leads all running backs in fantasy points, has scored under 14 points once all year. Portis has surprised critics by staying healthy, staying quiet, and producing on a winning team that relies on him to be the catalyst on the offensive side of the football.

**Least Consistent-** Jacksonville Jaguars Running Back Maurice Jones Drew

This guy has given his owners heart palpitations. Even though he is 11th in scoring among running backs, the bulk of his points have come in 3 weeks. He is a high risk high reward player, giving MJD owners some happy times with him and some very, very sad times.

*If you have any questions or comments, you can email me at jonathan.alpert@fiu-sm.com*

## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR RENT

Hammocks Trails (West Kendall) 1/1 completely furnished and equipped. Parking, pool, fitness center, \$890. Move in with first month, security deposit. 786-343-1314

### JOBS

Basketball Statistics Typist. Good typing skills, working well under pressure and basic knowledge of basketball a must. Training provided. Nights and Weekends. Call Ivan: 305-348-6666.

Want to work for FIU athletics Media Relations? If you have federal work-study, this is your chance. Please contact John Angel. 305-348-1357.

## CLOSE TO CLINCHING

### Volleyball a win away from securing conference top seed

**JONATHAN ALPERT**  
Asst. Sports Director

The volleyball team beat Middle Tennessee for the first time in head coach Danijela Tomic's coaching career to gain at least a share of the Sun Belt title on Nov. 7. FIU then fell to Western Kentucky in four sets on Nov. 9, and swept Florida Gulf Coast in Ft. Myers on Nov. 11 to complete a busy weekend.

"[It was] one of the best matches I've ever been a part of." Tomic said of the thrilling five-set marathon win over MTSU, which guaranteed FIU at least a piece of the Sun Belt title.

The letdown on Sunday afternoon was apparent, as FIU came out flat and couldn't outright clinch the SBC title, falling in four sets to third place Western Kentucky. "We didn't play as hard [against WKU] as we did against Middle Tennessee" said outside hitter Isadora Rangel. "Something was missing."

#### FIU 3, MTSU 2

A fiery crowd of over a thousand, FIU's largest of the season, witnessed what could have been FIU's most important win under coach Tomic, a two-hour and 30 minute, five set win over Middle Tennessee that took six match points to win (25-22, 25-21, 21-25, 23-25, 21-19). FIU improved to 24-4, 14-1 Sun Belt and MTSU

fell to 21-5, 11-3.

In the first set, MTSU jumped out to a 13-5 lead, but FIU fought back and tied the set 21. FIU won the set on a 4-1 run, 25-22.

In the second set, FIU jumped out to an early 5-2 lead, and continued to control the rest of the set, taking it 25-21. MTSU tied the set at 10, but FIU pulled away in the second set, which saw six ties and three lead changes.

Middle Tennessee jumped out to an early 2-0 lead over FIU in the third set and never relinquished it, taking the set 25-21.

The fourth set was a back and forth battle that saw six ties and four lead changes. FIU didn't take its first lead of the set until 17-16. The Golden Panthers gained momentum as the match continued to culminate with setter Natalia Valentin and freshman Andrea Lakovic teaming up for a critical block to tie the set at 21.

FIU couldn't close out MTSU, and the Blue Raiders tied the match at 2 sets a piece with a 25-23 fourth set win.

FIU fell behind in the fifth and deciding set early 7-3. Both teams traded points and FIU trailed 10-5. With MTSU 5 points away from handing FIU its first loss at FIU Arena this season, the Golden Panthers went on an 8-3 run to tie the set at 13. Both teams continued to trade match points, with each team surviving three elimina-

tion points, until FIU finally irked out a 21-19 fifth set win giving FIU its first defeat of MTSU in the last 14 matches between the two schools.

"I think our team matured more tonight than it has in the last 2 years," Tomic said. "I'm really proud of them."

"After [MTSU] tied it at two sets each, I knew we would win," said two-time All-American Yarimar Rosa. "We couldn't let the home crowd down, they were so loud and very supportive."

#### WKU 3, FIU 1

For the first time in 11 home matches and 13 overall, FIU lost, falling to Western Kentucky in four sets on Sunday afternoon (25-19, 22-25, 25-15, 25-23).

FIU led early in the first 11-7, but WKU tied it and 13 and never looked back. WKU held the lead the rest of the set and took it 25-19.

After taking the second set, FIU hit an abysmal .042 in the third set with WKU hitting .571. WKU took advantage and dominated the set, taking it 25-15.

FIU bounced back in a competitive fourth set which saw eight ties and seven lead changes, but FIU couldn't close out the Hilltoppers. With FIU leading 17-15, WKU rallied with a 7-5 run to tie it at 22. With FIU leading once again at 23-22, Western Kentucky scored three straight points to take the set 25-23, and the match three sets to one.



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**SLAM:** Yarimar Rosa looks to make a play during a game against Middle Tennessee at the FIU Arena. The Golden Panthers will host FAU on Saturday, Nov. 15th.

FIU couldn't capitalize on an opportunity to win the regular season Sun Belt title outright and earn the number one seed in the conference tournament (November 20-22 FIU Arena), but will have another shot Saturday, November 15th at home against FAU at 7p.m.

"We didn't deserve to win, we came unprepared and we were complacent," Tomic. "We had players who did absolutely nothing on the court."

"We've got to get over what happened today and keep playing," said Rangel. "It's a lesson that we always have to be prepared. We didn't play like we usually do, if we were playing an

easier team we might have won, but WKU is a really good team and we weren't prepared."

#### FIU 3, FGCU 0

The Golden Panthers set a school record with its 25th win of the season, handing FGCU just their second home loss in its last 45 home matches. The defending Atlantic Sun Champion Eagles fell to 19-7 on the year with the loss.

With FIU (25-5, 14-2 SBC) trailing 3-0 early in the first set, outside hitter Yarimar Rosa reeled off 4 straight kills to give FIU the lead 4-3. Rosa had 9 kills in the set. After trading points most of the set, FIU fell be-

hind 18-15, and head coach Danijela Tomic called a timeout. FIU went on a 7-1 run to take a 22-19 lead. With the set tied at 22, FIU notched three straight points to take it 25-22. Setter Natalia Valentin added 12 assists.

In the second set, FIU and FGCU were neck and neck until the second half of the set. With the match tied at 16, FIU closed out the set on a 9-4 run to take it 25-20. Rosa contributed another 7 kills and Valentin added 13 assists.

FIU opened up the third set with a commanding 11-5 lead, forcing FGCU head coach Dave Nichols to use a

#### VOLLEYBALL, page 7

## With season up, time for awards; pair of QB's break out

What a great ride it was. The maiden voyage of The Fantasy Five column has been enjoyable, and with seeding probably set in the Fantasy Football regular season, it is time for me to bid adieu to the column. Even though I am supposed to be an "expert," I have learned a lot about Fantasy Football, the breakfast of champions for us nerdy students of football.

Being wrong more often than right humbles a person,

so I'm glad I was right most of the time. Whether it be start'em/sit'em or waiver wire heroes, I applaud myself for being right on the money every week with most of my picks.

Fantasy Football is sacred to us football junkies. We take it very seriously. I'm pleading with owners of bad teams not to trade their best player to their buddy for fun in exchange for a cut of the winners' bounty.

Don't release your top players because you don't care anymore; I know

you're jealous but there's always next year and chances are you will have a solid team next year, so don't ruin it for us successful owners.

Fantasy Football had its over-achievers, underachievers, surprises and disappointments this season, and even though it's not award season, it's time to applaud the guys that made owners look smart, and hate on the guys that ruined the owners' season.

**Most Valuable Player-** San Diego Chargers QB Phillip Rivers and Arizona Cardinals QB Kurt Warner

Rivers has accounted for less than

2 touchdowns only twice all season, and has amassed over 200 points this year. He has five 3-touchdown games, and four 300-yard outings. If Rivers is your starting QB, there's a good chance you're in the playoffs.

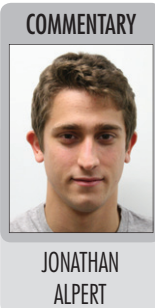
Old Man Kurt is on his way to winning his 3rd NFL Regular Season MVP award this year. He was supposed to be an insurance policy to Matt Leinart, but he has wildly exceeded expectations. Warner has had less than two touchdowns in a game just once this season. Wow. He has notched 300-yard games, including one 400-yarder. Kurt has been the

epitome of awesomeness, scoring under 15 points just once this season, and doesn't look like he will be slowed anytime soon, even though he could be my dad.

**Least Valuable Player-** Pittsburgh Steelers Running Back Willie Parker

The NFL's leading rusher over the last two seasons did his best Houdini impression this season, missing 5 games and part of another due to multiple injuries. Teams that spent a high draft pick on him, or traded for him after a 3-touchdown week one per-

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JONATHAN ALPERT