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**Golden Panthers defeat Red Wolves at home game**  
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## SPOTLIGHT

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**Weekends with Paradise:** Our columnist went to search for the perfect pizza pie, this restaurant served up anything but amore.

**AT THE BAY** PAGE 3

The BBC Wellness Center has issued an eight-week challenge that hopes to get you in shape before Spring Break.

**OPINION** PAGE 4

Does Wednesday's victory for Scott Brown in Massachusetts really destroy chances for healthcare reform?

**OPINION** PAGE 4

Will Obama stand up to questions rising about methods to fund the proposed health care reform bill?

**LIFE!** PAGE 5



Sigma Chi – new fraternity on campus just had their first rush.

**SPORTS** PAGE 8



FIU is expected to hire Scott Satterfield as their new offensive coordinator.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Gamer, Jan. 22, 5 & 8 p.m.** SPC-MMC presents Friday night movies. Free for students, will be held in GC 140.

**Off the Grid Party, Jan. 22, 8 p.m. through 1 a.m.** Help I.D.E.A.S. collect donations for victims. Will be at 2256 SW Trapp Ave., Coconut Grove. For more information, contact Viktor El-saieh: 786-619-4052.

**Women's Tennis vs. Troy, Jan. 23, 11 a.m.** Cheer on your defending Sunbelt Champions. Free for students at the tennis courts.

—More events can be found in our Monday and Friday issues of Life!

## WEATHER



**FRIDAY**  
PM T-Storms  
LOW: 64 HIGH: 81



**SATURDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
LOW: 67 HIGH: 77



**SUNDAY**  
Isolated T-Storms  
LOW: 69 HIGH: 79

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## Senator discusses U.S. foreign relations

**MEENA RUPANI**  
Staff Writer

United States Senator George LeMieux was present at the College of Law Auditorium on Jan. 15 discussing the present and future foreign policy of the United States in Latin America.



LEMIEUX

LeMieux was sworn in to the Senate in September 2009, replacing outgoing Republican senator Mel Martinez, who resigned from office in early 2010.

LeMieux currently serves on the Senate Armed Services and Commerce and Aging committees.

Prior to that, he served as Chief of Staff to Governor Charlie Crist, who appointed him to the senate seat, according to the Senator's Web site.

LeMieux began his lecture by acknowledging the devastation in Haiti and stating that the U.S. will be judged based on how we respond to what occurred in the country on Jan. 12.

"These are our neighbors, they are in our backyard. Lending from Miami specifically is critical," LeMieux said.

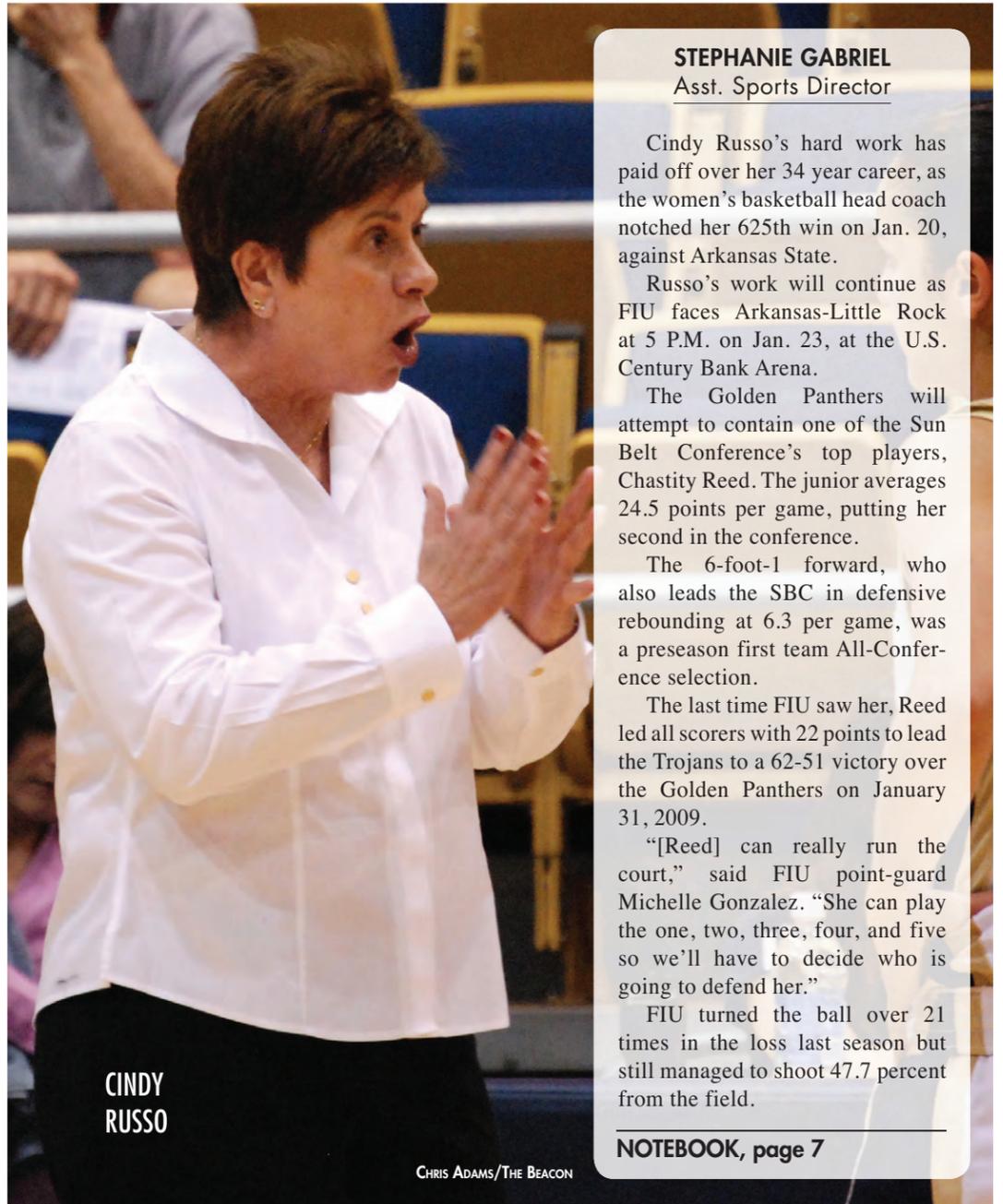
Following the discussion of the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti, LeMieux dove into the subject of the

**SENATOR, page 2**

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PREVIEW

# LITTLE BIG ROCK

Russo and FIU take on UALR in conference matchup



CINDY RUSSO

CHRIS ADAMS/THE BEACON

**STEPHANIE GABRIEL**  
Asst. Sports Director

Cindy Russo's hard work has paid off over her 34 year career, as the women's basketball head coach notched her 625th win on Jan. 20, against Arkansas State.

Russo's work will continue as FIU faces Arkansas-Little Rock at 5 P.M. on Jan. 23, at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

The Golden Panthers will attempt to contain one of the Sun Belt Conference's top players, Chastity Reed. The junior averages 24.5 points per game, putting her second in the conference.

The 6-foot-1 forward, who also leads the SBC in defensive rebounding at 6.3 per game, was a preseason first team All-Conference selection.

The last time FIU saw her, Reed led all scorers with 22 points to lead the Trojans to a 62-51 victory over the Golden Panthers on January 31, 2009.

"[Reed] can really run the court," said FIU point-guard Michelle Gonzalez. "She can play the one, two, three, four, and five so we'll have to decide who is going to defend her."

FIU turned the ball over 21 times in the loss last season but still managed to shoot 47.7 percent from the field.

**NOTEBOOK, page 7**

## Outreach program aims to help sophomores

**LAEBONY LIVINGSTON**  
Staff Writer

Sophomore students who feel they are at risk of dropping out may have a solution to their problems.

Rhea Perkins, a graduate student in Higher Education Administration, is head of the committee overseeing the Sophomore Success Outreach Program, the first program of its kind at FIU.

The program began as a paper for a graduate assignment when Perkins discovered that there is a population of students who needed help after their freshman year.

The program will focus on students who are at risk of probation, but it is completely volun-

**People are more likely to quit during their sophomore year than during their freshman year, so we want to keep them enrolled.**

Consuelo Boronat, Director  
Assesment and Evaluation for Student Affairs

tary. Perkins said that the program is meant to "give students an outlet and source of community."

"The students are expected to know how to navigate the college once they have moved past their sophomore career, but many are still lacking direction," Perkins said.

The formal planning for the program began in the Fall semester when Perkins put together a

committee of eight from various organizations around campus to come up with activities to help sophomores find direction.

Members of the committee come from the Center for Academic Success, the athletic department, Career Services and there is also a junior student to add variety to the committee.

Many students go through the

"sophomore slump," a transitional phase where their grades tend to drop and they once again feel as if they have no direction.

"People are more likely to quit during their sophomore year than during their freshman year, so we want to keep them enrolled," said Consuelo Boronat, director of assessment and evaluation for Student Affairs.

SOS wants to combat that "slump" with activities such as community involvement, career readiness workshops and other academic workshops. The students will meet with Perkins to map out their FIU career and a mentor program will also be

**SOPHOMORE, page 2**

# LeMieux discusses U.S. relationship with Venezuela

## SENATOR, page 1

lecture and gave a description of what is occurring and what should occur in a few Latin American countries.

“Policy in these countries should not be transactional, we must put the people of the region first,” LeMieux said. “Liberty, freedom and the rule of the law are the backbone of civil society.”

According to the LeMieux, democracy in Latin American countries has been backsliding in recent years and the U.S. needs to have more of a presence in these countries to influence democracy onto them.

The senator gave a few case studies in order to illustrate the

above point. He discussed the cases of Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia, Nicaragua and Honduras.

Most important of all these countries, he stated, was Cuba and Venezuela because of their recent connections to terrorism.

“The developing relationship between Chavez in Venezuela and Ahmadinejad in Iran should be worrisome to the American people,” LeMieux said. “Venezuela should be our biggest ally, but instead Chavez is seeking to destroy democratic ideals”

According to the senator, Cuba is significant because it is only 90 miles from our shore and has become a haven for terrorist groups recently.

“ Hamas and Hezbollah have

become deeply involved in a few Latin American countries, this is a disturbing trend to hear about,” LeMieux said.

The senator concluded his lecture by discussing the future of U.S. foreign policy in Latin America and why the U.S. is different from other allies of Latin America.

“Our nation is unlike any other in the world, we have sought to liberate people without conquering their territory,” LeMieux said.

“Not even the United Kingdom can make this claim,” he added.

In terms of the future, LeMieux stated that it is key to pass more free trade agreements with the Latin American countries he discussed.

“If the people can see that there is hope and the opportunity to prosper, then they will not fall back to their non-democratic ways,” LeMieux explained.

He added that the U.S. must be a respectful ally to Latin America and it is our responsibility to commit to the people of these countries.

“The seeds of capitalism need to be sown in democracy,” LeMieux said.

Afterward, students who attended the lecture reacted to what the senator discussed.

One student, Michelle Meulens, thought the senator did not give enough of his own viewpoints on the current U.S. foreign policy stance in Latin America.

“For the most part I felt he was basically giving a briefing. I was curious about his own opinions. However, he did make it clear that the United States should consider Latin America in terms that go beyond its own benefit,” said Meulens, a junior majoring in international relations.

Another student, Katherine Pina, described the lecture in similar terms.

“His speech gave the audience confidence that the U.S. government is aware of the significant issues, however, the lecture felt like a political rally. Pina said, a senior majoring in political science.

“It was as if he was up for reelection,” she added.

## NEWS FLASH

### NATIONAL

#### Republican elected to fill empty Massachusetts senate seat

Republican Scott Brown has upset democrat Martha Coakley to fill Ted Kennedy’s former seat in the Massachusetts senate.

According to CNN, Brown’s victory strips Democrats of their 60-seat Senate super-majority, needed to overcome GOP filibusters against future Senate action on a broad range of White House priorities.

No Republican had won a U.S. Senate race in Massachusetts since 1972, and Democrats control the governorship, both houses of the state legislature, and the state’s entire congressional delegation, CNN reported.

#### Virginia shooting suspect surrenders to police

A man suspected of shooting and killing eight people on Tuesday near a thickly wooded area of south-central Virginia surrendered Wednesday morning.

According to the New York Times, the suspect, identified as Christopher B. Speight, 39, was wearing a bulletproof vest but had no weapons when he turned himself in, the authorities said.

Three bodies were found in a house Mr. Speight co-owned, the authorities said. Four bodies were found outside the house and an eighth victim was found by the side of the road and died on the way to the hospital, the police told NY Times reporters.

The authorities said they did not know the motive for the shootings.

- Compiled by Gabriel Arraras

## FROM LAW TO ART



**ABOVE:** Artist Xavier Cortada, converses with President Rosenberg and R. Alexander Acosta, Dean of the College of Law. On Jan. 15 the College of Law featured Cortada’s paintings which symbolize the artistic rendition of Florida laws.

**LEFT:** One of Cortada’s paintings titled “The Miami Herald Publishing Company v. Tornillo.” The paintings are located on the second floor of Rafael Diaz-Balart Hall

# Meeting discusses future of program

## SOPHOMORE, page 1

set up.

Perkins has high hopes for the program.

“I hope that students who succeed in the program will come back to help other new students,” Perkins said.

Students who find success in the program can continue their improvement by enrolling in the Executive Protégé Initiative, which is provided by Career Services.

SOS will not only introduce techniques students can use to assist in their college careers but skills that they can use for the rest of their lives.

“I think it is a very unique idea. Too often sophomores fall beneath the crack. The type of agenda we have in terms of making sure they feel appreciated,” said Darren Gregory, a career coach with Career Services and SOS committee member.

During a recent committee meeting, the members gathered to discuss the specific programs and opportunities they plan on offering students. At this time the SOS calendar has not been completed but they hope to have the orientation by the end of January.

“I am in student government so I want to see students succeed and when I was approached, I thought it was a great idea,” said Altanese

Phenelus, student government senator for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Perkins hopes for the first group to have at least 25 students and, although she is graduating at the end of the Spring semester, she still wants it to continue without her.

“I just want the program to be successful, but more importantly to impact the students involved,” Perkins said.

Perkins will be giving evaluations at the end of the first semester in order to validate the program and to put its potential success in writing.

Perkins’ intent is for the program to be fully developed and become a part of the FIU community sometime in the future.

Students are still signing up for the program and any interested can contact Rhea Perkins in Career Services at 305-348-2423.

## THE BEACON

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SGC-BBC

## New speaker pro-tempore seeks to increase transparency

LATOYA BURGESS  
Staff Writer

Nickolay Chikishev, a self-proclaimed skeptic, has become the new speaker pro-tempore for Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus.

Chikishev, who was appointed as the new speaker on Jan. 11, replaced former speaker pro-tempore, Lily De La Calle.

The pro-tempore position entails substituting for the speaker of the senate, Tanya Williams, when she is not available and speaking on behalf of the members of the senate, according to Chikishev.

"I am glad to have this responsibility," Chikishev said.

According to Chikishev, he joined SGC-BBC because he wanted to see how money was being allocated. He also wanted to get a better sense of what was going on from the inside.

"I didn't like how [the SGC] wasn't transparent and right now we are not as transparent as we could be," Chikishev said.

Chikishev has been a part of SGC-BBC for two years. Last year he served as an intern for the council and said he attended more events last year than this year, but not by choice.

"I would attend more events this year, but my schedule doesn't permit me to," Chikishev said.

Chikishev's main goal this

semester is to make sure students are better informed about the consequences of getting parking tickets in the FIU parking lots.

He says that just getting an e-mail about attaining the proper semester decal is "insufficient."

"There should be signs posted here at [BBC], [SGC] would pay for it ... administrators have a lot of control and they strike us down".

Chikishev believes administrators don't want students to know about the decals and it has become an issue that can no longer go unnoticed.

"There should be one person, not three people, giving out citations," Chikishev said.



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

Nickolay Chikishev, the current speaker pro-tempore, addresses the senate during a meeting held on Wednesday, Jan. 20.

## Wellness center is hosting an eight-week weight loss challenge

SERGIO MONTEALEGRE  
Staff Writer

Students aiming to slim down and get in shape have been issued a challenge.

Beginning today, the Biscayne Bay Recreation Center located in Room 160 of the Wolfe University Center is hosting an eight-week team weight-loss challenge to help participants achieve a healthy lifestyle.

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. and lasts until 3 p.m. at the Wellness Center in WUC 330. The challenge, which includes a fitness assessment (faculty and staff must pay \$10 for the assessment), is open to any gym member for free. Registrants can sign up with a partner or alone.

"It's to promote wellness," said Andrea Rojas, a senior sociology major and assistant to Warren Shaw, assistant director of Campus Recreation at Biscayne Bay Campus. "We're not forcing people to be a certain size or shape."

After registering and submitting a release form, participants will be weighed-in to obtain their starting weight.

"[The Wellness Center] will use a tri-fit machine to do a wellness assessment, which takes about 30 minutes, on the first and last weigh-ins. Every other time will measure body fat changes," Rojas said.

After the initial weigh-in, the team doesn't have to show up together for weigh-ins. Weigh-ins will be held every other Friday in the Wellness Center from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. until the end of the contest on March 12. At the end of the challenge, prizes will be

awarded to teams or individuals who were the biggest losers in terms of body fat percentage lost.

During the challenge, participants will work together or alone to develop diets and workout routines to facilitate losing weight. However, the challenge doesn't measure the total weight lost, but rather the percentage lost by a person. For example, a contestant may enter the competition weighing 220 pounds, but finish at 235 pounds. This isn't very

**We're not forcing people to be a certain shape or size ... We want the participants to get to a point they feel comfortable with themselves.**

Andrea Rojas, Senior,  
Psychology

unusual, according to Rojas.

"People may gain weight, but it's due to the weight gained by growing muscles. For that reason, we're measuring the percentage of body fat lost," Rojas said.

The center will assist in finding a partner for the challenge for participants interested in working with a group, which the Wellness Center strongly recommends. Working with a group has added benefits.

"A group supports each other and helps them stay on track with the challenge," said Rojas. "Someone who works alone may become lazy, lose motivation and

then just stop showing up."

The idea behind a two-or-more person team is that the partners will motivate each other as the challenge progresses to continue their diets and exercises.

However, if a team member should choose to drop out at some point in the challenge, their results from the last weigh-in they attended will be used when calculating the team's final score at the end of the challenge. This doesn't mean that being in a team and having a partner drop will doom the other entrant.

"While we don't want people to give up, especially when they're so close to the end, if it happens and that causes a team to break up, the other member can still win the individual category prize," Rojas said.

Missing a weigh-in will cause the data collected from the last weigh-in to be used in its place. Participants are welcome to log their own progress in their own notebooks if desired.

The rules of the challenge include encouragement of exercise and healthy eating, but discourage drastic weight loss (over five pounds a week), and prohibit using weight-loss surgeries during the challenge and sabotaging other teams.

For the final weigh-in, contestants are required to wear the same attire they wore during the initial weigh in. For this reason, the Wellness Center recommends wearing a T-shirt and shorts.

"We want the participants to get to a point they feel comfortable with themselves," Rojas said.

For more information, contact the Recreation Center at 305-919-5678 or 305-919-4701.

WEEKENDS WITH PARADISE

## Italian pizza place fails to deliver its best

One of my closest friends Cynthia, whom I call "Canada", and I have this tradition. Whenever we are together we always let our inner fat kids out and each eat half of a pizza.

Being the good friend (and constantly hungry person) that I am, I decided to try a new pizza joint this weekend as a trial run before she comes home from the University of Florida. I went to Sal's Italian Ristorante, 15717 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines.

The place seemed safe enough when I first walked in, but of course I always find a way to try new things on the day when I shouldn't be there.

First of all, it bugged me that the guy who took my money was the same guy who was making the food. He had no gloves on, and touched my money with his dirty hands – and then made my pizza without washing them! As always, I tried to trust in the power of the hot ovens to burn off any traces of the swine flu I can get from his dirty hands as I turned around and pretended like I didn't see what he did.

By the way, this whole "pizza maker taking cash" thing seems to be a common practice in a lot of pizza joints, and one that I feel needs to stop.

I ordered a personal Greek pizza, which includes kalamata olives, tomato, feta and mozzarella cheeses and oregano for \$9.99.

As I waited, I had this annoying family sitting nearby to entertain me. They reminded me of the cast of "Jersey Shore," only in household

form. They were loud and rude; they honestly made me want to walk right out.

If you have the misfortune of going to this place you may not get the "Jersey Shore" family, but you will most likely get the pizza, which gave a bad name to pizza everywhere.

The pizza had no flavor whatsoever. As much as I tried to get past that by adding red pepper and cheese, I could not avoid the fact that I was eating what can only be described as chewy dough with toppings.

I had two slices of my pie, which was the size of car steering wheel, and left.

Of course that only left me hungry, so I did the only thing I could think of. I drove over to Anthony's Coal Fire Pizza, 17901 Biscayne Blvd., Aventura, and got my favorite pizza, tomato with basil for only \$6.50 if you get the lunch special.

Unlike Sal's, Anthony's is clean, the chefs stay away from the food and the people actually behave as if they have been in public before.

For those who have never had coal fire pizza before I recommend you try it. It's cooked in an 800-degree oven and the crust comes out extra crispy.

I did cheat a little by coming here. Canada and I have made this into our pizza hang out spot, and for good reason; the pizza is great and service cannot be beat.

As much as I wanted to try a new pizza joint, nothing can beat perfection. If I wanted pizza that made me want to gag when I ate it, I could have ordered Domino's.

COLUMNIST



PARADISE  
AFSHAR

## Brown's victory is not a total game changer

CHRIS TOWERS  
Staff Writer

You can change a lot about how something looks by changing the context.

It's a favored trick of politicians looking to take a seemingly innocuous comment and turn it into something more sinister, and it is quite effective. Whether people are too lazy or too careless or something else entirely, oftentimes you can get away with taking things out of context.

Scott Brown, a Republican purportedly of the fiscally conservative, socially liberal almost libertarian breed, shocked the world by defeating Martha Coakley, a Democrat, in a special election to fill the Senate seat of recently deceased liberal icon Ted Kennedy.

Three weeks ago, this seemed inconceivable. The prospect of a Republican winning Ted Kennedy's seat in the deeply blue state of Massachusetts was laughable.

Yet here we are, barely a year past Barack Obama's inauguration and already the Democrats have lost their so called Super Majority to a Republican from Massachusetts.

If you believe the right side of the political world, this is a clear and concise message to Obama that he's already a lame duck. Americans are tired of the typical Washington way of doing things, and Brown represents a clear agent of change.

This is, of course, silly and over the top, although not altogether without merit. As with so many things in today's world, you have to sift through the piles of trash being thrown out to get to the real story.

And this is where context comes in.

Yes, a Republican winning the seat that represents, essentially the lone roadblock in the Senate to the passage of health care reform, Kennedy, who worked as hard as anyone over the years for health care reform, is something of a modern day Greek tragedy.

The irony, I don't think, is lost on anyone. But to say that Brown won solely on the idea that the most liberal of states is fed up with Obama is oversimplifying the campaign entirely.

We are, in our country, at a time of something of a populist furor. The economy is still recovering and there is a sense that government has already messed things up enough.

And then here comes Martha Coakley and Scott Brown. On the one hand you have Coakley, the picture perfect image of the stereotypical New England liberal.

She largely shied away from the sort of boots on the ground campaigning that Brown thrived in, and time after time she seemed to come off as out of touch, running attack ads in a time when people are increasingly growing wary of the types of vicious ads that peaked during the 2004 election.

Brown, on the other hand, hit all of the right notes on government spending and tax cuts, and played the party line exceptionally well on the health care debate, and came off, even in his acceptance speech, as a guy who was just "above the game".

Yes, the Obama factor certainly played into this, but it must be remembered that this was a special election. This wasn't a 10 month marathon, it was a race that lasted a few weeks, and

in a race like that, there is much less room for error.

The problem, of course, is that much of his campaign smacked of cynicism designed to take advantage of a certain climate to get elected. Despite having supported and continuing to support the Massachusetts Health Care Reform of 2006, Brown has insisted he will hold firm as the necessary vote to essentially kill any further debate on health care in the Senate.

Regardless, Brown must be commended for pulling off a relative coup all things considered. He ran a great campaign and there is reason for optimism within the Republican Party for the first time since 2004.

And yet as with all politicians, now that the race is over, the onus is on Brown to prove he's as independent a thinker he says he is. The fact is, it's a lot harder to govern wisely than to get elected.

### THIN ICE



## Incompetence in Washington on health care reform

CHRISTOPHER ROMAGUERA  
Contributing Writer

Lately, the health care reform bill has been running into some obstacles, but considering the amount of time that has passed from the outset of this endeavor, the word "lately" doesn't really work. I think "once again," or "another" may be a more appropriate phrase to describe the seemingly never-ending process.

Last night's victory for Scott Brown in Massachusetts is certainly another road bump in the process. The ongoing debates display weakness within our young president and a fear of taxes that will hold us back from legitimate reform.

Instead of cries that we heard at town hall meetings last summer, claiming that President Obama has death squads trying to kill Ma Joad, we have an issue outside the application of the bill itself. We are now confronted with the controversy of how the government is going to finance a bill that the congress itself cannot seem to agree on in the first place.

Members of the Republican Party keep raising up the issue of new taxes to support the programs that will be established, including the establishment of insurance exchanges open to small-business owners and individuals to lower prices.

Howard Fineman, of MSNBC, says that "glory and honor aside, politics is about one thing: taxes." While I do not completely agree with that referendum, I will say that "taxes", in politics, is a dirty word. And for a president to say these words is lethal - these words will be recorded and replayed before the punctuation of the sentence it was uttered in can be deciphered. The perfect example in recent memory would be President George H.W. Bush, who stated in 1991 that more taxes would be needed in the midst of a failing economy.

One of the taxes that has been bounced around more than most is the idea of a surtax on the rich. The cutoff point would be that of \$500,000 for individuals and \$1 million for families. If you have to put two commas in it, then the situation calls for a word.

Already the wails of "Socialism" can be heard. I mean, think of the audacity of our president to ask for the only valuable commodity of our richer brothers and sisters; their money. What about helping their fellow citizens? Never.

While FOX News anchors will make inaudible noises referencing the end of the world and how we will be Cuba part two, it is more likely that the upper class of America will feel a tighter pinch in their

“Already the wails of “Socialism” can be heard. I mean, think of the audacity of our president to ask for the only valuable commodity of our richer brothers and sisters: their money.

pocket.

I have to wonder now if this is just like every other case of indecisiveness that we have seen by this young administration. Obama has easily given up on some things for the health care bill that shouldn't have been let go so easily.

For instance, the Public Option that the private sector convinced everyone that it was evil was a pivotal part of the health care bill. Yet it was surrendered under the Senate version of the bill. Obama accepted the concession.

My fear is that we have a president still trying for bipartisanship, when those bridges have obviously been burned long ago (so long ago the metaphor is now a cliché). By trying to make both sides happy, we have had binding compromises, resulting in stagnation, which for those

keeping score would be the opposite of change.

We need some toes to be stepped on, no matter how hard it has to be done. Obama could have had this bill passed immediately when he was elected and highly popular, but now we are no longer on the honeymoon. He is no longer prom king. We need a president that can make the decisions he finds best and execute them, without riding the waves of every lobby paid for by every conservative.

One thing is certain: the Democrats cannot wait and play nice. Their time is running short as the people's patience runs short. According to the latest Ramunsen polls, only 38 percent of Americans support health care reform. It may be fear of the bill itself. Or they may just be too tired to care.

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### DAILYQUERY

With Scott Brown's victory in the Massachusetts election, what options do congressional democrats have in passing a bill on healthcare reform? Is it already too late? Is the collapse of the super-majority in the senate a good thing? Send responses to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com)

### OPINIONPIECE

# 5.6

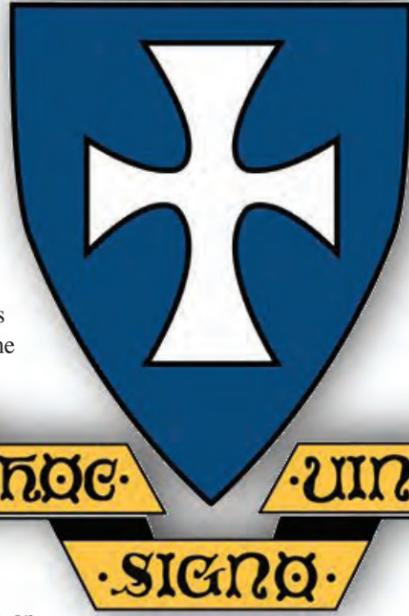
The Amount in billions of dollars that Bank of America reportedly lost during the 4th quarter of 2009.

### QUOTATIONATION

*"I'm Scott Brown. I'm from Wrentham. I drive a truck. And I'm nobody's senator but yours."*

Scott Brown  
Senator (R), on his victory, 1-19-10

## New Guys On Campus



### Sigma Chi aims to become an official fraternity chapter

AMANDA BATCHELOR  
Staff Writer

Jan. 14 was the start of the Interfraternity Council's rush week, where 12 fraternities hold events each day looking for potential new members for their chapters. Sigma Chi, the newest fraternity on campus is looking to have 25 total members this semester in order to be in phase one of their recruitment process on the way to becoming a chapter at FIU.

There are 12 founding brothers of Sigma Chi at the University that were initiated this past Fall semester. In order to be considered a colony, a fraternity needs to have 15 men initiated. For phase one of the process, they need 25 men and for phase two, and to be officially considered a fraternity chapter, they need 35 men. They intend to have 40-plus members by mid Fall of this year.

David Trujillo is the current president of Sigma Chi at FIU. He first rushed Sigma Phi Epsilon and dropped due to certain traditions that he didn't feel strongly about. Values and traditions were an important part of his decision making in finding the right fraternity.

Trujillo says Sigma Chi's three main values are friendship, justice and learning.

"Academics always comes first," said Trujillo, a senior hospitality management major. "I also liked the idea of starting a fraternity and being a founding brother at FIU."

Sigma Chi's rush week began on Thursday with "Poker Night," where men could go to just hang out and meet the brothers in a casual atmosphere.

The week of events concluded on Jan. 21 with the "Sig BBQ" in the Betty Chapman Plaza.

After rush week, the men of Sigma Chi will distribute bids to those men they feel would be an asset to their fraternity.

Jose Garcia, who is the recruitment chairman of Sigma Chi, said that they are looking for "men of character."

"Sam Smith, the expansion director for Sigma Chi, told us to look in the mirror and find men that display the same qualities as [us]," said Garcia, a sophomore accounting and finance major.

Kenny Criollo is the co-recruitment chairman and he said that Garcia is one of the main reasons why he joined Sigma Chi.

"Jose and I were friends before and, since I knew him, I decided to look into Sigma Chi," Criollo said. "The diversity of the chapter and the work they do for the Huntsman Cancer Institute - which raises money and awareness for cancer - were the reasons I decided to stay with it. I have two family members who passed away from cancer and one who is living with it now. It was also very easy for me to connect with the brothers. I connected to them deeply after only a month."

Sigma Chi plans to have an annual "Derby Days" - a weeklong event which raises money for their philanthropy, the Huntsman Cancer Institute or the Children's Miracle Network. Some other chapters of Sigma Chi have had soror-

ities competing against each other in different events. It's up to each chapter how they want the event to go, however.

Besides doing work for their own philanthropy, Sigma Chi has also supported other fraternities and sororities on campus by going to their events and making sure they are known to the other organizations.

They have also volunteered for the American Cancer Society's 5K walk, where they worked a booth to raise money for breast cancer.

Sean Cogolludo Fitzpatrick, a freshman and mechanical engineering major, has been interested in Sigma Chi for a while.

"One reason why I like Sigma Chi is because, even though I left Spain a little over a year ago and had to start from scratch, with these guys I don't have the feeling that I'm not at home," he said. "It's as if they have been my friends forever and that makes it easier to adapt to new life."

If you would like to find more information about rush week with Sigma Chi or any other Interfraternity Council Organization, visit [www.fiu.edu/~greeks](http://www.fiu.edu/~greeks).

#### FISTFULS OF TECH

## Apple feeds off speculation

Deep below Apple's headquarters lies a secret office where the industry's top minds are working diligently on some really amazing things. Right down the hall from that office is the advertising department.

I have to give Apple credit where credit is due; they sure know how to create hype about something that doesn't exist yet.

The Apple Tablet, or the iSlate, or the iTablet, or whatever the hell the media is calling it this week, will be announced on Jan. 27. Though this information has been corroborated by many "sources close to the matter," we still don't know what's going to happen.

The latest rumors seem to be that the device will be a giant iPhone of sorts, only with a much more intuitive interface. However, notice I said "latest rumors."

Apple has been long rumored to be entering the tablet market for years. Industry journalists and stock analysts have been predicting the release of this device before almost every major Apple event since 2007, but to no avail.

Each year, *The New York Times* will jump the gun and announce the alleged specifications of this device, and each year they end up with egg on their face. I guess "sources close to the matter" aren't as right as they think they are.

Evidenced by the past three years, where a tablet has been absent at each presentation, Apple's latest creation could be anything. It could be an iToaster, an iCar, or Steve Jobs' new robotic body that will allow him to live forever.

That being said, the spike of rumors and reports recently seem to indicate that the tablet's release will be more likely this year than any year before it.

Apple's attempts to silence Gawker Media's iTablet information contest, where it promised to pay for leaked information about the tablet, kind of confirmed that something existed and that Apple was afraid it might get leaked.

The Apple tablet seems to be drawing closer and closer to release, and it's a big possibility that we will see it next week. But the reality is that when it comes to Apple, nobody knows and that is the entire point.

What I have come to notice is that Apple has achieved what very few companies have. They have basically found a way to use the consumer's brain to advertise their products.

I was at a local coffee shop when I noticed a CNN report detailing the Apple press event scheduled for Jan. 27. Immediately, I began thinking of the tablet and what it would have, and how I would use it and...suddenly I caught myself.

My lustful reaction to that nonexistent product was almost Pavlovian. Jobs rings the bell and the world drools with anticipation.

People, we all need to take a deep breath and ask ourselves what are we really going crazy for here? In the eyes of the consumer this thing isn't real, yet we feed into the machine by wildly speculating on what this thing can do.

Investors and consumers treat Apple differently than Google or Microsoft. We assume excellence with Apple yet we demand excellence from everyone else.

So when I hear people say how great the tablet is and how it's going to change the world, I have to ask them one question: "How do you know?"

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

#### COLUMNIST



JORGE VALENS

## SPC show to provide comedic relief

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ  
Staff Writer

As promised, the Student Programming Council at Modesto Maidique Campus will provide the student body with yet another great comedy show.

This time around, it's Eric O'Shea providing the laughs.

Wildly popular among college students, the Connecticut-born comedian will bring his Elmo and celebrity-inspired personas to the FIU stage.

The comedian is most popular for his skit "Songs for

Commercials."

The skit of song suggestions for products such as tampons, Viagra and AT&T caught the attention of Hollywood heavyweight Steven Spielberg, who is now a proud fan. Adding to his success, O'Shea got a chance to perform "Songs for Commercials" at the 2009 Creative Emmy Awards alongside Carol Burnett, Betty White, Seth MacFarlane, Ted Danson and Jamie Lynn Sieglar.

In 2007, O'Shea was named National Comedy Performer of the Year. He was chosen after being voted on more than

5,000 campuses nationwide.

Due to his ever growing popularity on the college circuit and his self-proclaimed clean wit, getting O'Shea wasn't an easy task.

Through the council's yearly visit to the National Association for Campus Activities Conference - an organization that helps student councils around the country find entertainment resources for events - SPC-MMC snagged the opportunity to work with other colleges nearby in order to book the funny man.

"We actually booked him at [the] NACA South Confer-



ence. He was one of the top comedians there - every school wanted to book him. Luckily,

# O'Shea's creative skits expected to be a big success

## O'SHEA, page 5

we were able to find schools around Florida who could bring him near the date that we were looking at, and we were able to cut the cost by 'block booking' with them,"

said Cristina Rodriguez, president of SPC-MMC.

Stephanie Suarez, junior elementary education major and SPC-MMC director, was convinced O'Shea was the one for FIU when she introduced him at the NACA

Conference back in October 2009 and hysteria soon followed.

"As I was on the stage introducing him, he crawled on stage next to me and started pawing at my leg like a panther and crawling

around me and making the weirdest motions. It was crazy. Needless to say, everyone was laughing and snapping pictures because it was amazingly ridiculous," she said of her encounter with the comedian.

What sealed the deal even more for Suarez was the way he handled her butchering his name while introducing his set.

"I totally messed up his name in the introductions and for the rest of the entire showcase, every time I would come out to change

the microphones he would call me the girl who messed up his name and poke fun at me," she said.

Vice President of External Affairs for SPC-MMC Ana Casas, a senior public relations major, is confident O'Shea's show will be a hit.

"We expect the show to be a great success. Eric O'Shea has become a popular performer and we are proud to be able to present him to the FIU student community. He's very funny. Not everyone can get over 3 million hits on YouTube,"

she said.

SPC-MMC will continue to coordinate comedy shows for FIU spirit events.

Rodriguez said they have proven to be the most popular with students.

Comedy shows tend to generate a lively response from the crowd and are a great way to relieve stress from the semester by kicking back and having a few laughs.

O'Shea will serve up the laughs when he performs Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. in the GC Ballrooms.

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## Quick Picks

### MOVIES

**The Book of Eli**  
52/100  
46/100  
"The story requires a greater leap of faith than I was willing or able to muster, since Eli is also a saintly pilgrim on a God-given mission to save a ruined world."  
Joe Morgenstern  
*The Wall Street Journal*

**Fish Tank**  
78/100  
86/100  
"A vivid portrayal of life at society's margins with a compelling turn from newcomer Jarvis"  
Philip Wilding  
*Empire*

**44 Inch Chest**  
48/100  
57/100  
"Structurally, 44 Inch Chest resembles *Reservoir Dogs*; but, without the added amusement of Tarantino's skewing of narrative time, it feels very much more like a direct adaptation of a stage play (which apparently it's not)."  
Joe Morgenstern  
*The Wall Street Journal*

### Music

**In This Light & On This Evening**  
*Editors*  
59/100  
1.5/4  
"The change in emphasis is jarring at first, but embrace your inner goth and you'll realize that the band's signifiers—frontman Tom Smith's outsize baritone, a penchant for high drama—remain intact."  
Josh Modell  
*Spin*

**Sex Therapy**  
*Robin Thicke*  
73/100  
2.5/4  
"This is his baby-making album, and though Thicke's freak flag is PG-13, his new randiness adds zip to an always-perfect falsetto."  
August Brown  
*The L.A. Times Music Blog*

**Invisible Cities**  
*NOMO*  
84/100  
8/10  
"The story requires a greater leap of faith than I was willing or able to muster, since Eli is also a saintly pilgrim on a God-given mission to save a ruined world."  
Thom Jurek  
*allmusic.com*

### GAMES

**Dark Void**  
*Multi*  
60/100  
46/100  
"It's just a damn shame that the nigh-amazing 'The Rocketeer versus UFOs' premise crashes hard into 'tepid Gears of Uncharted knock-off' ground."  
Thierry Nguyen  
*Up*

**Matt Hazard: Blood Bath & Beyond**  
*Multi*  
70/100  
7.9/10  
"Matt Hazard's debut missed the mark with gamers, and though this entry isn't a bull's-eye, his aim has gotten a lot better."  
Tim Turi  
*Game Informer*

**Phoenix Wright: Ace Attorney**  
*WiiWare*  
65/100  
6/10  
"This port gets an F for effort, but that might not be enough for me to not recommend it — the game is still good."  
Craig Harris  
*ign.com*

LEGEND  
Metacritic.com The L.A. Times ign.com Pitchfork Magazine Rottentomatoes.com  
COMPILED BY ASHLYN TOLEDO

## THIS WEEKEND

### FRIDAY, JAN. 22

**GAMER**  
*Gerardo Butler*  
SPC-MMC presents Friday night movies.  
WHEN: 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 140

**Off the Grid Party**  
Help I.D.E.A.S. collect donations for victims.  
WHEN: 8 p.m. - 1 a.m.  
WHERE: 2256 SW Trapp Ave., Coconut Grove  
For more information, contact Viktor El-saieh: 786-619-4052

**ART DECO DISTRICT**  
90-minute art walking tour.  
WHEN: 10:30 a.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$15-20  
WHERE: Art Deco Welcome Center, Miami Beach

### SATURDAY, JAN. 23

**YOGA IN THE PARK**  
Bring own mat, towel.  
WHEN: 9 - 10:15 a.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Tina Hills Pavilion Bayfront Park, 301 N. Biscayne Blvd.

**WOMEN'S TENNIS**  
FIU vs. Troy  
WHEN: 11 a.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Tennis Courts

**W. BASKETBALL**  
FIU vs. UALR  
WHEN: 5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

### SUNDAY, JAN. 24

**CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL**  
Fairchild's fourth annual festival will feature coffee, tea, samples and cocoa tree sales.  
WHEN: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$20  
WHERE: Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden  
[www.fairchildgarden.org](http://www.fairchildgarden.org)

**Miami Jewish Film Festival**  
Last day of the festival.  
HOW MUCH: General admission, \$11.  
WHERE: Colony Theatre, 1040 Lincoln Road.  
Check out [www.miami-jewishfilmfestival.com](http://www.miami-jewishfilmfestival.com) for movie times.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

FIU vs. UALR  
WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

**SOUTH BEACH COMEDY FESTIVAL**  
The Daily Show and Friends perform.  
WHEN: 9 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$37.50  
WHERE: The Fillmore at Jackie Gleason Theatre

**CHOCOLATE AND WINE TASTINGS**  
Call 305-446-3131 for details  
WHEN: 6 - 10 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Peterbrooke Chocolatier, 227 Aragon Ave.

## Sudoku answers from 1/20/10

9	3	5	8	1	6	7	4	2
2	4	6	3	5	7	1	8	9
8	7	1	9	2	4	5	3	6
7	1	2	6	9	8	4	5	3
4	5	8	1	3	2	6	9	7
3	6	9	7	4	5	2	1	8
6	9	7	5	8	1	3	2	4
5	2	3	4	7	9	8	6	1
1	8	4	2	6	3	9	7	5

Keep playing every week!

# Clutch late free throws help FIU pull away

WOMEN'S, page 8

the game at 14 before Gonzalez knocked down another three with 4.27 remaining to go up 19-16.

"We know that we're a good half court basketball team," said Gonzalez. "If we can make a team that runs play half court they're going to get loose. So that's what we tried to do and it worked out."

Mansare continued with a hot hand, knocking down two more shots to increase FIU's lead to 28-22.

The momentum continued to grow on FIU's side as freshman Carmen Miloglav knocked down a jumper to put her team up 30-25 at the end of the first half.

"Carmen starting has been good because our

opponents plan to double the post players and press the point guard, so having her next to me brings a lot of help," said Gonzalez.

The Golden Panthers came out aggressively in the second half as Bosilj knocked down seven points within the first two minutes to give FIU its largest lead, 37-25, before the Red Wolves began chipping away.

Sherina Scott knocked down a jumper with 1:21 remaining to tie the game, but Gonzalez responded to put her team up by two.

The Red Wolves had no choice but to foul the rest of the way to bring it back to even, but FIU proved to be efficient as they went 4-for-4 from the free throw line during the final 24 seconds.

"We started out very positive and we had confidence that we could beat this team," said Gonzalez.

# Sun Belt shaken up as New Orleans drops to Division III

MEN'S, page 8

game back after his mother's passing.

- The University of New Orleans has announced they will voluntarily withdraw from the Sun Belt Conference

in 2010, after a student referendum to increase revenue via student fees failed.

The Privateers' will drop to Division III and the Sun Belt will move forward with 12 schools and no plans for further expansion.

# Golden Panthers look to slow down Trojan threat

NOTEBOOK, page 1

Gonzalez expressed what she thinks is the key to stopping the opposing offense.

"They run a lot. Everyone wants to run against us," continued Gonzalez. "We'll have to be able to get back on defense to contain [Reed]."

Gonzalez hopes to be the main offensive threat for FIU. The sophomore currently leads all Golden Panthers in scoring with 12.0 points per game along with 3.3 assists.

Forwards Marquita Adley and Elisa Carey continue to be a productive front court tandem for FIU. Carey averages 11.5 points and 9.6 rebounds per game while Adley chips in off the bench with 10.1 points and 9.4 rebounds per game.

Arkansas-Little Rock is coming off a road win against Florida Atlantic University. The Trojans shot 45 percent against the Owls while Reed totaled 17 points along with six rebounds.

Most recently the Golden Panthers snapped a

three game losing streak with a 65-65 home win over Arkansas State. After being out-rebounded in their previous three match ups, FIU was able to crash the boards and beat the Red Wolves 46 to 35, including 20 on the offensive glass.

After the win, Gonzalez expressed how relieved the team is to be back at home where they are 6-6 this season.

"We're home for two weeks and I'm really glad," she said.

## FIU VS. UALR

What: FIU Women's Basketball  
When: Jan. 23, 5 P.M.  
Where: U.S. Century Bank Arena  
Radio: Radiate FM 95.3, 96.9, 88.1.  
Online @ WRGP.org

## ALL STAR SHOWCASE



AL BERHMAN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cincinnati Bearcats' quarterback Tony Pike and wide receiver Marty Gilyard are among a handful of college stars who will compete in the 12th annual Mercedes Benz College Football All-Star Challenge, held at the FIU Stadium on Feb. 1.

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Modesto Maidique Campus, PC 113

**Contact Information:**

E: [Africana@fiu.edu](mailto:Africana@fiu.edu)

T: 305-348-6860

W: [Africana.fiu.edu](http://Africana.fiu.edu)



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

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: FIU 65, ASU 61

## TURNING THE CORNER

### Bosilj's 24 point night leads Panthers

STEPHANIE GABRIEL  
Asst. Sports Director

The FIU women's basketball team was relieved to be back home.

After dropping two previous matchups on the road, the Golden Panthers (8-12, 3-6 Sun Belt) traveled back to Miami to defeat Arkansas State (7-11, 2-5 Sun Belt) 65-61 on Jan. 20.

The win not only broke a three game losing streak for FIU, but it was also the 625th victory of head coach Cindy Russo's career.

"The past two games on the road were really tough for us but as soon as we came back to practice it was really productive," said point guard Michelle Gonzalez.

It was also a big night for senior Monika Bosilj who scored a game high 24 points.

"I'm really happy that Monika could have this game because she's been kind of stagnant," said Gonzalez.



CHRIS ADAMS/THE BEACON

Point guard Michelle Gonzalez scored 14 as the Golden Panthers took down conference foe ASU 65-61.

For the Red Wolves, Shania Hurst led the way with a career high 20 points.

Bosilj scored the first five points

of the game before the Red Wolves responded to take an 11-7 lead after seven minutes.

Freshman Finda Mansare

knocked down a jumper with 7:21 remaining in the first half to tie

**WOMEN'S, page 7**

### MEN'S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

## Injury sparks lineup change; Thomas rejoins team at home

JOEY CRUZ  
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers line up has been dealing with a rotating cast lately.

As of the 62-56 victory over ULM on Jan. 7, FIU has been trying out a few different starting line-ups to try and find a winning formula.

J.C. Otero has entered the starting line-up after coming off the bench for much of the beginning of the season.

Steven Miro has also found himself thrust into a starting role; the Golden Panthers' have won two of four games since the young Puerto Rican point guard has taken over the starting role.

Point guard Phil Gary Jr. had started the whole season, but has seen his minutes cut recently because of a battle with tendinitis in his knee.

"Its feeling better and better every day," said Gary. "Tendinitis is a really hard injury to heal."

Gary is trying to help fellow point guard Miro manage the game during his first glimpses of starting action.

"I just try to be a good teammate, giving advice when I should,"

### FIU VS. UALR

What: FIU Men's Basketball

When: Jan. 23, 8 P.M.

Where: U.S. Century Bank

Arena

Radio: Radiate FM 95.3, 96.9,  
88.1. Online @ WRGP.org

said Gary. "He's doing the things he needs to do to help us win."

Gary leads the Golden Panthers in assists and steals this season, ranking third in the conference in the latter category as well.

Gary, however, has also had a tendency to be careless with the ball, leading to a team high 54 turnovers.

"I gamble a lot," said Gary. "One thing coach has preached to me is if you're going to gamble, be aggressive."

### SPARK OFF THE BENCH

Since the lineup change earlier in the month, FIU has topped each of their last four opponents in bench scoring.

Marvin Roberts, the Golden Panthers leading scorer with 16

points per game, has been providing a spark to offense off the bench.

"It is mainly a matchup problem for other teams," Gary said.

Since the change, the team has split two games with Roberts coming off the bench.

### COACH COMES BACK

Jan. 19 was head coach Isiah Thomas' first day back to coach the team in practice since Jan. 13, when Thomas' mother passed away due to a heart condition.

Thomas missed two conference games while in Chicago, against Middle Tennessee State and Western Kentucky.

Assistant coach Anthony Anderson was the interim coach for the duration of Thomas' absence.

"One day he was practicing with us, and the next day he was not coaching the game," said Gary. "We were all shocked and played our hearts out to win the (MTSU) game for him."

The Panthers play the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Saturday, Jan. 23 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

It would be Coach Thomas' first

**MEN'S, page 7**

## Toledo QB coach to take over offense

JONATHAN RAMOS  
Sports Director

FIU football is expected to announce the hiring of Toledo quarterbacks coach Scott Satterfield as it's new offensive coordinator.

Toledo team spokesman Paul Helgren could not confirm the report, but did say the team is awaiting confirmation from FIU on whether the hire is finalized.

Satterfield would replace Bill Legg, who departed to take the same position at Marshall. Satterfield was the passing game coordinator in addition to coaching the quarterbacks last season for the Rockets, helping them finish 13th in the Football Bowl Subdivision in total offense.

Leading up to his tenure with the Rockets, Satterfield was the offensive coordinator at Football Bowl Championship team Appalachian State, where the Mountaineers won three national championships from 2005-07 and jumped into national prominence with an upset of No. 5 ranked Michigan in 2007.

In 2009, the Golden Panthers finished 100th in total offense, and placed last in the Sun Belt Conference in rushing offense, mustering just 105 yards per game.



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

Phil Gary, who started the season as FIU's starting point guard, has been forced to give up minutes to Steven Miro due to a lingering knee injury.