

## SGA ELECTION COVERAGE

Complete results coverage, analysis and student reactions coming Monday April 6

## Tough road challenge ahead for Panthers

PAGE 7

### SPOTLIGHT

#### OPINION PAGE 4



With new efforts being made in Congress to ban automatic assault weapons, we must realize that taking guns away won't take away crime.

#### LIFE! PAGE 5

Ultra Music Festival brings visitors from around the globe.

#### AT THE BAY PAGE 3

SOC-BBC Executive Board positions open to students interested in gaining leadership experience.

#### OPINION PAGE 4

Should the Internet start over? Wiping the Web clean is easier said than done.

#### SPORTS PAGE 8



Freshman plays several positions as he earns respect from teammates.

#### LIFE! PAGE 5

COLUMN: Steve Mesa takes apart *Fast & Furious*, the fourth installment in the film series about tricked-out cars, racing and boobs.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Service for Peace - Meeting, April 3, 8 a.m.:** Bring the peace with more than hand signs! Today at GC 340.

**Laughing Gas Comedy Improv show, April 3, 11 p.m.:** This show is sure to make you forget about finals and dealing with financial aid if even for just a couple of hours. Enjoy the funny at this event.

**Miami Art Museum, open free, April 4, 12 p.m.:** During this trying time, it is nice to enjoy local free bees like this one. Inspire the artist in you at Miami Art Museum.

**Nautica South Beach Triathlon, April 5, 7:15 a.m.:** Watch Anna Kournikova, "The Bachelor's" Andy Baldwin and Gold-medal Olympic skier Sarah Burke run like crazy at 7th Street and Ocean Drive.

**Miami City Ballet, April 5, 8 p.m.:** Let these graceful dancers take you away at the Ziff Ballet Opera House.

For the complete calendar, please see page 6 or visit [FIUSM.com/calendar](http://FIUSM.com/calendar).

#### WEATHER



**FRIDAY**  
Partly cloudy  
LOW: 72 HIGH: 87



**SATURDAY**  
Partly cloudy  
LOW: 71 HIGH: 83



**SUNDAY**  
Isolated t-storms  
LOW: 73 HIGH: 84

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## RUBIKED



CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

**APRIL FOOL'S:** Marty's Cube, in front of Deuxieme Maison, was transformed into a Rubik's Cube as part of an April Fool's prank. "Rubix Crew" was not available for comment.

## Lack of student response to survey delays improvements

**CHRISTOPHER LAZAGA**  
Staff Writer

Each day, countless students spend too much time driving in circles around the University Park campus parking lots and garages searching for a place to park. Some students idle their vehicles in the corners of the Red and Blue Garages in hopes of finding a parking space that doesn't require a cross-campus odyssey to make it to class.

While many students complain about parking, few students take steps to inform the University administration of their parking difficulties. The answer may partially lie in the Continuous Quality Improvement Survey, a periodic questionnaire sent to all FIU students.

Earlier this semester, researchers at FIU's Office of

Planning and Institutional Effectiveness sent a link to the student body for the survey, which is conducted at least once every year and is one of the University's tools for gauging the level of students' satisfaction with the school.

"A lot of times, students don't take the time to make their voices heard," said Noelle Laforest, statistical research coordinator for OPIE. "This past semester [the survey] was sent out to an estimated 36,000 students, but as of today we have close to 1,400 responses."

The survey's purpose is to collect feedback from registered University students pertaining to academic issues, campus life, campus environment, campus safety, University/student communication, student services and student experiences in order

to improve the FIU experience.

Laforest said that anything students suggest needs improvement is taken note of.

The improvement survey is also used to identify departments and services that students have difficulty dealing with.

"Our main goal is to make sure the students are heard," said Hiselgis Perez, director of institutional research for OPIE. "If we see there is a pervasive problem in a particular area, we make it known to that area so they can choose to take action."

According to Laforest, in the past, the survey has yielded a heavy student concern for campus eateries. Students wanted to see more variety in their on-campus diets.

Soon afterward, the food court

OPIE, page 2

### THE FIFTH UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

## Candidates show diversity, experience

**JULIO MENACHE**  
Staff Writer

A faculty senate chairman, a clinical professor of neurology and the former president of a university in Saudi Arabia are just three of the 15 diverse candidates for the University's presidency.

The resumes of each of the candidates were presented to the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, a panel of 26 members from the University and local community, designated to pick FIU's new president.

The candidates were either nominated or responded to an ad placed by the University in different publications, such as *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

"I'm impressed, we're off to a decent start," said committee member Thomas Breslin, chairman of the FIU Faculty Senate. "We have a reasonable amount of candidates and a good process in place."

Members of the PSAC got a first look at the 15 candidates during the committee meeting on March 25.

The faculty members were broken into different small groups, where each group looked at four of the candidates with guidance from Jan Greenwood and Betty Asher, heads of the executive search firm Greenwood/Asher & Associates in charge of helping with the search.

"As committee members, we are asked to look for leadership, management and resource development," said outgoing Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus President Ana Maria Silva, who is the only student representative on the board. "We also look at certain qualifications that are desired, but not obligated such as having a terminal degree." According to the University's presidential search Web site, presidential candidates should have "successful experience in a complex university, industry or government environment with a distinguished record of leadership, management and resource development."

#### GLOBAL REACH

The committee members were presented with a folder containing 227 pages with each of the 15 candidate's resumes.

Greenwood/Asher & Associates was able to reach more than 400 different institutions across the United States.

"The people being considered are very accomplished," Greenwood said to committee members during the meeting.

One of the candidates, Alan G. Goodridge, served as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs and as acting president for Alfaisal University in Rivadah, Saudi Arabia. Creating

SEARCH, page 2



## NEWS FLASH

FIU

**SGC-UP online voting had problems on the first election day**

Online voting through Panthersoft for the 2009-2010 Student Government Association elections was experiencing difficulties on April 1, with many University Park students being given the options to only vote for presidential and vice presidential candidates and for a newly revised version of the constitution and no senatorial candidates listed.

"We're trying to work with Acceleration, the company which helps us with elections, to figure out the coding involved for fixing the Panthersoft voting. It's really a computer glitch," said Jose Toscano, SGA advisor, during an interview on Wednesday.

Toscano urged students who were experiencing difficulties to vote in the Graham Center computer labs where paper ballots are currently being handed to voters.

## LOCAL

**Tunnel to Port of Miami construction delayed**

The Florida Department of Transportation ended an existing deal on April 1 to build a \$1 billion tunnel to the Port of Miami. It was announced, however, that private construction companies worldwide will be asked to submit new bids.

The existing bid was awarded in 2007 but had not yet been formally signed when the state agency halted the deal Dec. 12. Under that deal, the tunnel was set to be completed in 2012. However, with the delay, the tunnel may be held back until 2015 or 2016.

## NATIONAL

**Obama talks about nuclear weapons**

U.S. President Barack Obama and Russian President Dimitri Medvedev entered into talks to further reduce the amount of nuclear weapons stockpiled between the two nations.

Meeting in London before the G-20 conference, Medvedev stated that he embraces Obama's administration and their stance to solidify ties, which were strained following the Russian invasion of Georgia late in 2008.

The leaders will work to proceed with the START I agreement, which calls for the continued downsizing of their nuclear stockpiles while also addressing emerging threats including nuclear programs in North Korea and Iran.

-Compiled by David Barrios

## Conference bridges tech, culture gap

DIANA JORDAN  
Staff Writer

Technological advancement in the digital world, which is constantly changing how people look for and find information, was the main theme discussed in a conference co-hosted by The Wolfsonian-FIU this past month.

FIU's Wolfsonian co-organized 350 museum and library professionals at the annual Institute of Museum and Library Services WebWise Conference, held in Washington, D.C., Feb. 25-27.

This was made possible through the \$499,702 grant The Wolfsonian received from the IMLS.

The WebWise Conference, which was sponsored by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, convened leaders in the field of technology and representatives from libraries and museums across the country to discuss and study the impact and promise of digital technological advancements on cultural institutions.

"As co-organizer with the Institute of Museum and Library Services of the national WebWise Conference, The Wolfsonian-FIU has taken a leadership role with respect to examining the digital future of museums and libraries," said Cathy Leff,

**The argument for museums and libraries to join the rest of Western civilization into the digital world was compelling.**

Jennifer Attonita

director of The Wolfsonian.

This year's conference, Digital Databases, addressed major technological issues facing libraries and museums.

"The argument for museums and libraries to join the rest of Western civilization into the digital world was compelling," said Jennifer Attonita, a conference participant. "This vast network of information existing in 'the online cloud' is an invaluable resource that should be capitalized upon."

The main sessions consisted of debates centered on copyright issues, accessibility to online collections and social networking sites such as Flickr and Facebook.

These sessions were digitally recorded and captured participants Twittering and discussing the issues the panels raised.

Michael R. Nelson, a visiting professor of Communications, Culture and Technology from Georgetown University, gave the keynote address named "The Crowd, the Cloud, and 3-D Internet: Implications for Cultural

Organizations," while John Palfrey from Harvard Law School and the Berkman Center for Internet & Society gave an address called "Born Digital: Understanding the First Generation of Digital Natives."

Leff said in a written statement that the MacArthur project leaders' participation was an important aspect of the conference because it provided "museum and library professionals with the opportunity to meet with researchers who are exploring how digital media is changing how young people learn, play, socialize and participate in civic life — all of which are critical to the future of cultural organizations."

The conference was attended by participants from Hawaii to Australia and marked the final year of The Wolfsonian's grant with IMLS to serve as the WebWise Conference co-host.

"The conference in D.C. was especially useful to me as an educator," said Claudia Caro Sullivan, manager of the School and Youths Programs at The Wolfsonian. "I had the

opportunity to meet MacArthur grantees that are working on the leading edge of practice and research-based Web 2.0 projects. It was an incredible opportunity to be able to reflect on my practice."

The IMLS is the main source of federal support to the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. It seeks to build libraries and museums while sustaining heritage and knowledge at the national level in coordination with local organizations.

The Wolfsonian is a museum, library and research center, which houses collections comprised of approximately 120,000 pieces.

Its curatorial goal is to paint the picture of the various historical and technological changes, which have occurred throughout the years, through their vast and varied collections.

The Wolfsonian also co-hosted and co-organized last year's conference, WebWise 2.0: The Power of Community, in Miami Beach.

"Apart from the prestige and honor that came with being the co-organizer, we also learned so much from the conference's participants about how [The Wolfsonian] can use digital technology to better serve and remain relevant to our 38,000 students — the generation of digital natives," Leff said.

## Candidate pool an international one

**SEARCH, page 1**

annual budgets for the university, as well as "mentoring Saudi vice presidents and deans on the principles of Western education" were among some of Goodridge's accomplishments. He also worked as provost for the University of Toledo, Ohio.

Norman Smith, who served as an assistant dean in the John F. Kennedy School of Government from 1980-84, also served as the president of Richmond - The American International University in London, England.

The search has also brought candidates of different nationalities, including Mohammed Tahar Attaf, who has both Algerian and Canadian citizenship, as

well as Jamaica native H. Keith Moo-Young, dean and professor of the College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology at California State University in Los Angeles.

Each of the candidates put emphasis on many of the required and desired qualities committee members were looking for.

Smith mentioned in his resume, for example, that he was the longest serving president (1988-2002) for Wagner College in New York City, where he fixed a "dire financial deficit" that nearly closed the school, as well as improved the school from a low-tier school to being named one of *TIME* magazine's best colleges.

The search also attracted medical

professors, such as Nabih Manih Ramadan, who is a clinical professor of neurology at Loyola University Medical Center and Larry Fredrick Lemanski, a professor for the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology at the Temple University School of Medicine.

Among the 15 candidates who submitted resumes was FIU Provost and Executive Vice President Ronald Berkman. He repeatedly dodged questions about his candidacy after outgoing President Modesto A. Maidique announced his resignation last November. Berkman could not be reached for comment.

Committee members, however, are preparing for the 30-40 additional resumes that are expected to come by April 17.

## Survey data used for re-accreditation

**OPIE, page 1**

at Biscayne Bay Campus was completely renovated and plans were set into motion to convert the defunct Gracie's Grill at UP into a Chili's Too.

Today, one of the most frequently cited student services is parking and transportation.

"Parking is the No. 1 issue, especially during the fair when parking is limited," Laforest said.

Although OPIE makes

public its analysis of all the survey data collected, they can't directly call for changes, according to Perez.

"We can't force people to take action, but we do make things known," Perez said.

Besides publishing its findings on its Web site, OPIE's survey data also play a role in FIU's regular re-accreditation process.

According to Perez, not only are the results used around the University to make improvements, they are also given to external reviewers in

charge of regularly re-accrediting the University.

"So, the students' opinions definitely do count," Perez added.

Although most students have brushed off the survey, some have taken a proactive step and completed it.

Freshman sociology and anthropology major Krista Lopez took the time to complete the survey.

"It was pretty comprehensive," she said. "Everything was pretty black and white and easy to answer."

Lopez also commented that she sees the results of the survey all around her.

"I think [FIU] is actually trying to be more environmentally friendly. I see a lot more recycling bins," Lopez said.

Marjorie Douglas, a sophomore majoring in nursing, also feels strongly about the survey.

"I think it's important that our opinions are cared about. This is our school. This is where we pretty much live," Douglas said.

THE BEACON 

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SOC-BBC

## Executive Board positions open to students

**BARBARA QUIJANO**  
Asst. News Director

The Student Organizations Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus is looking for students to join and develop leadership skills that can be refined through the variety of opportunities it offers.

“Being a part of SOC is a great way to find out what kind of leader you are,” said Didier Georges, SOC president. “Everyone has leadership skills, and SOC offers a variety of

**Being part of SOC is a great way to find out what kind of leader you are. Everyone has leadership skills.**

Didier Georges, president  
Student Organizations Council

opportunities at different levels to see what you can do really well.”

The SOC Executive Board is renewed every semester, and its current board is currently looking for interested students to join this student organization, which finances more than 35 clubs at BBC, making sure things run smoothly, according to Georges.

This council is the governing

body of all student organizations on campus, serving these organizations through the coordination of activities to promote the academic, social and athletic interests of the students at BBC, according to its Web site.

Student clubs such as AdScene, Humanities Club, Circle of Women, On Point Poetry, Stonewall 2 BBC, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and Hip-Hop Alliance are governed by SOC.

“It’s a great leadership training opportunity by learning skills that may not be developed in the classroom,” said Jessica Senorin, SOC vice president. “It’s also a great networking tool, meeting the staff and faculty of other clubs.”

Applications for students interested in becoming members of the SOC Executive Board are available on the Web site, as well as in the BBC Campus Life and Orientation office located in WUC 141.

The deadline to apply for any of these positions is April 6 at noon.

Positions in the SOC Executive Board include president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, marketing director and events coordinator.

These positions are all paid for and the requirements to qualify for any of them include a minimum 2.2 GPA and for 50 percent of classes to be taken at BBC.

“Being a member gives you the ability to work together with a team,” Senorin said. “It’s not only one person doing a specific set of things.”

The elections meeting, where candidates will be voted on, will take place April 6 at 2 p.m. in WUC 155.

At the meeting, applicants will give a two-minute speech on why they think they deserve the job, followed by a short question

and answer session with the club members.

At the end, the Executive Board and club members under SOC will vote for the new board members.

“You can be the quietest or most outgoing person and still be elected,” Georges said. “But what

really matters is the speech, because club members base their vote on that, as well as the question and answer session.”

*For more information on SOC and to retrieve the application, visit the Web site at [socbbc.fiu.edu](http://socbbc.fiu.edu).*

### POLLING PLACE



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

**PANTHER VOTING:** Joanne Oates, elections volunteer, helps Ayelen Ferrer and Alonso Menendez with the Panthersoft voting for the 2009 SGC-BBC elections in the Academic I building on April 1, while Wellington Siqueira reads through the candidate platform handout before casting his vote.

WEEKENDS WITH PARADISE

## Washing away your problems with style – Vegas style

I have a weird weekend tradition. I clean my car every Saturday afternoon at the Shell gas station by my house and fill up the tank.

But this weekend, I decided to treat myself and have someone else do the dirty work for me and clean my car, which I have nicknamed Brian Williams.

The first place I brought Brian to get cleaned up was Master Car Wash on 15180 Biscayne Blvd. in North Miami. Like most of you, I drive by this place everyday on my way to and from school, and always say to myself, “One day, I am going to bring my car there.”

Well, let me tell you now: resist the urge!

I thought this place would be great to wash my car while I sit in their restaurant/lounge area, called Bertoni Brick Oven Pizza and Lounge, to eat and do homework.

When I got to the lounge area, I was impressed by the variety of food – until I saw the prices. They charge \$10 for a personalized veggie pizza that is, no joke, the size of an average DVD case.

I decided to get a spinach quiche for \$4, and it wasn’t even worth that much. Maybe I am being a harsh, but to me, presentation is everything and the server bringing me the food with a mop in her hand kind of unsettled me. I couldn’t bring myself to take more than a bite out of the cold quiche that they swore they heated up for me. It was probably sitting under heat lamps, so the upper crust was not flaky, the spinach was

dry and lacked flavor and the eggs that were inside of it didn’t look edible.

Thinking I could help save the dish by adding salt and pepper, I looked around the table expecting to find a shaker or something; it turns out they just take those individually packed condiments and place them all in a dish on the table. I had to dig through mustard and sugar packets to find the salt at the bottom. There was no pepper.

As for my car, I got the supreme wash, which includes a vacuum, cleaning of the dashboard, outside wash and wax, and the shining of your tires and rims for \$15. And once again, I over paid for something that was not worth it. The same wash varies in price depending on your car. Prices for this wash go up to \$17 for a mid-size car, and \$19 for an SUV.

They also offer a full-detail car wash for \$169 for a compact, \$189 for a mid-size car and \$219 for an SUV. The wash includes a supreme wash, a full interior shampoo, a polish and a hand wash.

I expected the term vacuum to mean that they would vacuum the entire inside of my car, including the area between the driver’s seat and the door, but they left that part out of my package. And that dashboard cleaning they promised ... didn’t happen. How it took them an hour to do all of this, I don’t understand.

Brian had the same amount of dust on the

dashboard than it did before it got “cleaned.”

By the end of the day, I was down \$19, and Brian was not nearly as clean as I expected. So I brought my semi-clean car over to the Fabulous Casino Car Wash Miami, on 11705 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. These people actually know how to clean a car and cleaned up the mess the other place made- so to speak.

I had them rewash my entire car, inside and out, for only \$15.99. Keeping the Vegas theme of this location, they call this wash the Texas Hold ‘Em. This included interior vacuuming; a soft cloth and high pressure wash; an undercarriage wash; triple foam conditioning; tire and wheel cleaning; paint sealer; simonize double bond with Teflon protectant; turbo and hand dry; and a dashboard, console and door jams wipe down.

You can also pay for the Casino Express wash for \$9.99. You get a soft cloth and a high pressure wash, which includes an undercarriage wash; a triple foam conditioner; tires and wheel cleaning; and turbo and hand dry. The most expensive is the Casino Royale wash for \$199.99, which includes high speed buffering and high gloss wax; exterior rubber and vinyl dressing; carpet, mat and upholstery shampooing; leather and vinyl cleaned and conditioned; a dashboard and seat belt cleaning; and a wheel and chrome polishing. Add an extra \$10 for an SUV, van or truck and you get the Texas Hold ‘Em wash.

The wash I picked included the vacuuming

of the car, and this time they did not forget the little space between the door and the seats. My dashboard was wiped down, my seats were cleaned and I even got an air freshener. I was very pleased.

This is not to say that I am forever going to avoid getting my car cleaned by anyone but me. This weekend I spent two hours at car wash places, and paid \$35 for the same amount of work I do for myself every weekend.

Heck, I even paid \$5 more than I used to and my gas tank was empty.

My recommendation: wash your car yourself. But if you must bring it somewhere to get cleaned, go to the Fabulous Casino Car Wash in North Miami. The staff there is very friendly and do a great job with your car. These people are fast, too. They cleaned Brian in about half an hour.

At Master Car Wash I felt like I was just another car, and the fact that no one spoke to me or even smiled when I thanked them for their work really threw me off.

Despite the time and money, Brian Williams is now sparkling clean from the inside out ... Until next week when it needs another cleaning.

*Read Weekends with Paradise every other Friday for more tips on places to go in the North Miami area. If you have any suggestions, e-mail [paradise.afshar@fiusm.com](mailto:paradise.afshar@fiusm.com). The columnist pays for all food and experiences.*



PARADISE AFSHAR



## Banning guns not the key to fewer crimes

JONATHAN DE LA TORRE  
Staff Writer

Recently there was talk in Congress of a ban on both automatic and semi-automatic assault rifles in an effort to reduce violent crimes. This is the beginning of a renewed effort to ban firearms in the United States.

However, will this really help reduce armed crimes? This question has been debated for many years, but as someone who uses guns recreationally, the answer is simple.

Banning assault rifles will not reduce violent crimes; however, enacting harsher gun laws and imposing tougher background checks will.

If a ban on guns is signed into law, armed robbers and assailants would not stop assaulting victims. Criminals are still motivated enough to continue committing crimes and will only find more ways to work around such a ban.

Furthermore, a ban on guns would only increase the risk of having arms taken away from law-abiding citizens. A survey of inmates convicted of armed crimes by the Bureau of Justice Statistics found that 80 percent of the crimes were committed with a firearm that was an illegal street buy.

This indicates that a black market for guns has been established and a ban would simply expand that market. Take the prohibition movement: Alcohol was banned for 13 years because it was thought that banning alcohol would reduce crimes and solve many of society's problems. Instead, bootleg alcohol was sold throughout the nation in underground illegal bars and the black market soared. Prohibition was finally abolished in 1933.

Also, a ban on guns would take away peace of mind from those who own and use firearms legally and responsibly. Many small business owners are now beginning to keep guns in their stores and offices for protection.

How many times have armed robbers gone into stores, pharmacies and other shops, and shot helpless clerks and employees in order to get to a safe or cash register? Now think of how many times clerks and employees have been able to defend themselves, and fend off attackers and robbers because they had a gun under a counter or in a drawer.

This also goes for homeowners. Many homeowners are now buying guns for protection. According to a Gallup poll, 38 percent of Americans "reported having a gun in their homes." Armed robberies at one's home are a real threat.

Our right to own guns is granted to us in the Constitution in the second amendment of the Bill of Rights: "... the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."

That should make it clear that any effort to ban any guns would be unconstitutional, though many argue that the founding fathers did not know that firearms would become as dangerous as they are now.

Guns were lethal 222 years ago. They still are today.

So what is the solution, if there is any at all? It's simple: Congress needs to pass stricter gun laws regarding background checks and law enforcement needs to crack down on the firearm black market. Background checks for the purchase of guns and the Concealed Weapons Permit need to include mental health history and be more detailed.

If lawmakers can compromise and law enforcement officers can start an offensive against the black market, then we will have an effective compromise. Good people will be able to keep their guns and crimes involving guns will decrease. This, I believe, is the best solution to this decades-long debate.

## CYBER EVOLUTION

Project seeking to wipe Web clean will cause more harm than good

JADE SCHUSTER  
Staff Writer

The Internet has become a cacophony of security lapses, resulting in a race to reinvent it.

According to *The New York Times*, Stanford University has a team of scientists pondering the inevitable question of how to deal with the current Internet's inability to siphon off belligerent bugs that are capable of single-handedly taking down military and governmental networks.

In efforts to quash this wave of Internet crime, Stanford University's Clean Slate Project attempts to remedy this and is in its early stages. Its mission, according to its Web site, is "to reinvent Internet infrastructure and services by creating 'platforms for innovations in networking, computing and storage.'" But what does this mean for us? How does this affect the global Internet community at large? And, better yet, do we need to start over and wipe it clean?

I suspect that a new Internet, while certainly an ingenious idea, is not going to be the answer to all of our hacker nightmares. How exactly would a clean slate solve the inadequacies that currently exist within this giant matrix of mass communications?

More to the point, what about the concept of losing Facebook, MySpace and other social networking Web sites? Not to mention the pure gall of these computer nerds to even suggest that erasing e-mail, blogs, photos and the katrillions of other personal cyber memorabilia that swirl constantly in the sea of e-

carnage would present an answer to this e-nightmare.

Can we afford to lose such things as Wikipedia which is solely based on individual postings that pose as building blocks in our quest for knowledge? I often utilize this Web site to increase my intellectual capacity on any number of

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**I suspect that a new Internet, while certainly an ingenious idea, is not going to be the answer to all of our hacker nightmares.**

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given subjects.

What about Google, the search-engine that offers us a plethora of Web sites ranging from A to Z? I would be lost without this handy electronic guru.

It is understandable that we need tighter security when it comes to the Internet.

Surely, you have heard of the so-called "Nigeria Scams," whereby latent, identity-hidden thieves send e-mails from cyber cafes offering to give away millions of non-existent dollars to unsuspecting citizens in return for cold hard cash.

Additionally, *The New York Times* brings up a valid

point as to the vulnerability of our networks by referring to an Internet crime gang named Conficker, based in Eastern Europe, that "quickly infected more than 12 million computers, ravaging everything from the computer system at a surgical ward in England to the computer networks of the French military."

But is it really necessary to reinvent the wheel? After all, most of us value our anonymity on the Web, and not all for the sake of criminal or ill-advised activity.

Yes, there are cyber stalkers who could visit our children posing as other young peers, and of course there will always be hackers, con-artists and embezzlers galore, but unless we can put a complete end to crime in general, no matter what we try to do to protect the Internet, there will always be someone out there who is smarter, more cunning and willing to manipulate the Web in order to satiate their appetite for tomfoolery and wickedness.

Maybe our efforts are better spent on designing and implementing fail-safe mechanisms to catch us when we fall. For there will certainly be further incidents in which esoteric types will infiltrate the Internet's forbidden networks. What choice do we have? Yes, we could start a clean slate, but at the end of the day, who really wants to start adding Facebook friends from scratch?

Not I, for one.

## Gaining knowledge alone is a reward

IRIS A. FEBRES  
Opinion Editor

In March 2009, Lisa Guernsey of *The New York Times* wrote of the conundrum involving buying good grades.

I don't mean when students purchase term papers online for ungodly amounts of money; I mean when students get paid to achieve high marks on assignments and exams.

Getting paid for your grades is nothing new. I've been getting cash for A's since middle school. When report cards came out, it was a ritual with my parents and me - for every "A" I got, I'd receive \$5; for every "B," \$2. And whenever they couldn't pay me for my hard work, they'd instead make a trip to Chuck E. Cheese; I'd relish in their promotions for free tokens when kids show up with their report cards, hungry for coupons to exchange for cheap mood rings and plastic Slinkies.

The fear critics have of such monetary arrangements between students, parents and even schools stems from

the possible undermining of "the joy of learning for its own sake," as Guernsey wrote. By making studying and acing classes into a business, the essence of learning is lost. The aim of doing coursework is no longer to gain an education - it's to get money.

It makes learning sound dirty.

Such a business venture, like the Capital Gains program that is run within 14 Washington public schools, clearly has its advantages and setbacks. When money is involved, there is a literal, vivid investment for students to grasp. Students in grade school don't immediately understand the consequences of getting bad grades, aside from receiving notes from their teachers or losing playtime with their PlayStation. The concept of currency permeates much more deeply through younger minds.

The reward of an "A," for older students, means a better chance at getting into a good college - a much more mature attitude. But what about college students like us? A program like Capital Gains could never be insti-

tuted at a school like FIU, which more than 35,000 students attend. Paying for grades would be ridiculously expensive, unfeasible and unrealistic. (I can still admit it would be nice, though.)

And yet there are many of us (myself included) who receive money from the state in order to achieve a high GPA every semester. Isn't that the same concept, but on a bigger scale? It's simply Lottery-funded, positive reinforcement: if Florida delivers, I deliver. But it's not just the money that keeps me going, it's the hope that I'll find a career that will make me happy after I snag my degree.

I am unsure if children today genuinely want to learn for free. Keeping in mind the argument of nature versus nurture, I believe parents are ultimately responsible for their child's desire to learn, and they shouldn't resign themselves if their son or daughter would rather play with their Nintendo DS than open up their textbook.

Learning shouldn't be a job. It should be a reward in and of itself.



# RHYTHM NATION

## Electronic music festival draws eclectic, global crowd

**CHRISTOPHER NECUZE**  
 Editor in Chief

With beats that could be heard miles away and crowds of people so vast that they appear to be a sea of heads, the Ultra Music Festival invaded Miami and brought every fan of electronic dance music out of hiding for two days of hardcore partying.

The festival, now in its 11th year, drew both a local and international crowd; its organizers are calling it the most successful Ultra ever.

Nearly 70,000 followers of trance made the yearly pilgrimage to downtown Miami's Bicentennial Park, which serves as the genre's Mecca throughout the Winter Music Conference, a week-long electronic music event held in the city. The flagship closing event, Ultra, was held March 27 and 28.

The devotees were clad in everything from neon wigs, make-up, stockings, to elaborate costumes or even just underwear.

They came to worship those gods of trance; legendary DJs including Tiesto, Paul van Dyk and Moby, as well as the Prodigy, the Black Eyed Peas, Armin van Buuren and Erick Morillo, among other big names, in town for the WMC.

In the same year when Langerado, an annual music festival also scheduled to be held in Bicentennial Park, was canceled due to poor ticket sales, the WMC and Ultra both thrived, attracting more visitors than ever before.

Cesar Bourdon, an exchange student from France working on his MBA, knows a thing or two about electronic music festivals as they are more common on the other side of the Atlantic. Still, he said he had never really seen anything quite like it.

"To describe it in one word: awesome," Bourdon said. "I've lived in Europe, so I have something to compare with. I've never been to anything like Ultra.

"Back home we view everything in the U.S. as bigger. Everything is bigger

in the U.S. — the people, the food, and this is definitely true with Ultra."

The festival has received worldwide recognition. It was the winner of the best music event category at the 24th annual International Dance Music Awards, held during the WMC. It was also named best dance festival at the 2008 Ibiza DJ Awards, known as the "Grammy's for DJs," and held annually in Ibiza, Spain.

Margaret Coleman, who lives in Miami, has gone to the festival for three years in a row.

"David Guetta and Tiesto were my favorite last year," Coleman said. "I'm excited about Cut/Copy and Moby this year."

Coleman was riding downtown Miami's Metromover on March 28, the second day of the festival. Earlier in the day and on Friday, there was a problem with a "switch" and the system's outer loop — the one going to Ultra — was out of commission.

"Can you believe this s\*\*t?" shouted one angry man, dressed in a bumblebee

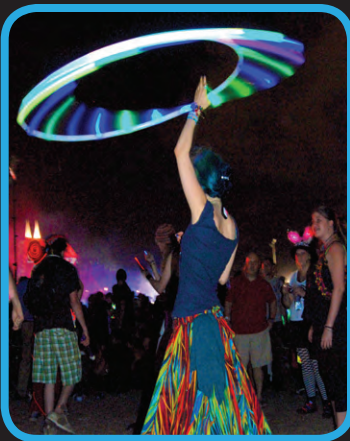
outfit. He stormed off the train and began the six-block trek to Bicentennial Park.

Once inside the festival grounds, all was forgiven and forgotten as the chest-pounding bass that visitors had been hearing all along finally materialized into tangible options. Vendors swarmed the grounds with wheelbarrows laden with ice and selling \$5 water bottles and \$7 beer.

The sprawling festival occupied nearly every square foot of Bicentennial Park's 30 acres, with more than six stages and two huge tents, each with its own style of music and line-up of artists. The main stage, with a back drop of the purple-lit McArthur causeway, boasted a capacity of 20,000.

For Margaret Coleman, everything always came together to create the perfect festival experience, year after year.

"This is my third year, and I know it's going to be amazing," she said. "Every year it's like a whole new festival. By tomorrow, after everything is over, I'll already be waiting for next year."



PHOTOS BY ALEX GARCIA/THE BEACON

### THE CINEMATIC

## Fast & Furious delivers cheap thrills

The gang is all here as the original cast from the 2001 hit movie *The Fast and the Furious* reunites eight years later to deliver fast action and fast cars in *Fast & Furious*.

*Fast & Furious*, the fourth installment of *The Fast and the Furious* series, takes place after the events of *2 Fast 2 Furious* and before *The Fast and the Furious-Tokyo Drift*. Now that we got that out of the way, *Fast & Furious* opens with an amazing

sequence that involves heists, big explosions and oil tankers. It will make moviegoers breathless with so many close calls. The man responsible for the heist is Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel), who is still on the run from the FBI with his girlfriend, Letty (Michelle Rodriguez). A tragedy in Dom's life leads him to return to the United States, where he

COLUMN



STEVE MESA

THE CINEMATIC, page 6

## diversions

**STOP THE PRESSES!**

art by iris amelia / story by susana rodriguez





## IMPASSIONED



VERONIQUE NYDAM/THE BEACON

**PARLAY:** Finesse Mitchell, a former "Saturday Night Live" cast member, performs at SPC's Uproar Week 2009.

## Cheesy lines, eye candy draws moviegoers in

### THE CINEMATIC, page 5

reunites and teams up with friend/enemy Brian O' Connor (Paul Walker) to bring down a heroin importer by infiltrating his operation as drivers.

We can admit as moviegoers that we do not go watch a new *Fast and the Furious* film for the acting. We watch these films to entertain ourselves and escape reality for an hour and a half or more. This is what *Fast & Furious* manages to do. We are greeted with images of slick cars and beautiful women that seem to fall under the category of "Look But Don't Touch."

Aside from the opening sequence, the film has many car races, including an interesting race that pits Dom and Brian against each other through the streets of L.A. where a global positioning system device in their cars tracks their movements. There are many close calls and many crashing cars as the racers drift in and out of the crowded streets.

Director Justin Lin took the helm following the footsteps of Rob Cohen

and John Singleton. Lin took on the franchise three years ago with *The Fast and the Furious-Tokyo Drift*. He does a better job with *Fast & Furious* as he manages not only to showcase car chases and races, but also balance it out with other action sequences such as foot chases on the roofs and streets of L.A. Trying to follow the action with the camera bouncing up and down may be a little nauseating for people who have motion sickness.

*Fast & Furious* brings back the whole team that made the first movie popular, instead of just bringing one (Walker in *2 Fast 2 Furious*) or the other (Diesel's cameo role in *The Fast and the Furious-Tokyo Drift*). While it is fun to see the cast reunite again, the performances are what you would expect from a *Fast and the Furious* film. There is no Oscar-caliber acting in this movie and Vin Diesel and the gang try to get by with their acting capabilities and a bad script. Vin Diesel's dialogue in this film can inspire a book called "How to Say



Cheesy Lines without Looking and Sounding Like A Dork."

While the dialogue is bad, the script also has some problems when it comes to the story. The mood of this movie is much darker than the previous installments. The movie takes itself too seriously, becoming one of its weaknesses.

Though this film has a weak script and insubstantial performances, *Fast & Furious* reunites the cast to bring a decent action-packed film that provides tons of eye candy and the feeling that summer is around the corner.

*The Cinematic* is a weekly column that dives into film and filmmaking.

## Club brings islands home to students

**LUCIA SASTRE**  
Staff Writer

There's something alleviating about being part of a group that shares the same cultural views as you.

Launched in 2006, that's exactly what the Bahamian Student Organization aims to do with its members.

"The BSO is an organization that identifies with and caters to the needs of the Bahamian students at Florida International University," said Tia Williams, member of the organization.

"We intend to foster a culture that preserves the Bahamian presence on campus through various activities related to the Bahamian culture."

Some of these activities include visiting Goldie's Restaurant (a Bahamian-inspired cuisine), tabling in Graham Center, introducing students to Bahamian candy and preserving the culture by having regular barbecues with Bahamian food and music.

Most of the activities the Bahamian Club offers are a way for students to get to know each other, and for those who have a common culture, to come together and share their insights.

"Our main goal right now is to get our name out there. A lot of students, including Bahamian students don't even know that there is a Bahamian Student Organization on campus," said Colette Hanna, a member.

The BSO is currently planning a skating trip for club members, according to Hanna.

"I predict it will be fun and it's a good way for those in the club to get to know each other better," Hanna said.

Those individuals of Bahamian ancestry or any affiliation thereof

**We intend to foster a culture that preserves the Bahamian presence on campus through various activities related to the Bahamian culture.**

Tia Williams, member  
Bahamian Student Organization

come together with the desire to support, serve and socialize among themselves as well as the FIU community while showing school spirit and Bahamian pride.

"In the past, we have been featured in the Orientation booklet and taken part in FIU related events such as Relay for Life. We also plan to participate in the upcoming Welcome Week during the Fall," Williams said.

These social events include game nights, Bahamian dinners, attending sports events, occasional meetings where historical as well as current issues regarding the Bahamas are discussed and taking part in various orientations for incoming students.

"We plan social events to maintain an interaction among the Bahamian students and we support the school and show our pride as a unit by attending various social, sporting and fund-raising events," Hanna said.

The BSO meets every Monday at 3 p.m. in GC 343. During these meetings Bahamian students form personal connections as well as relationships with each other.

For more information, visit the next BSO meeting April 6.

## THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

FRIDAY • APRIL 3

**WHAT:** Service for Peace - Meeting  
**WHEN:** 8 a.m.  
**WHERE:** GC 340  
**CONTACT:** 305-348-2285

**WHAT:** Students for a free Tibet - Film  
**WHEN:** 11 a.m.  
**WHERE:** GC 243  
**CONTACT:** 305-348-2285

**WHAT:** Boogie Friday  
**WHEN:** 10 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Electric Pickle  
**CONTACT:** 305-456-5613

**WHAT:** Laughing Gas Comedy Improv Show  
**WHEN:** 11 p.m.  
**WHERE:** 766 Main Street Miami Lakes  
**CONTACT:** 305-461-1161

**WHAT:** Jazz Memories  
**WHEN:** 12 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Barbara Gillman Gallery  
**CONTACT:** 305-573-1920

SATURDAY • APRIL 4

**WHAT:** Branford Marsalis  
**WHEN:** 8 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Gusman Center for the Performing Arts  
**CONTACT:** 305-374-2444

**WHAT:** Pure Imagination  
**WHEN:** 9 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Sweat Records  
**CONTACT:** 305-758-5862 ext.5

**WHAT:** Miami Art Museum, open free  
**WHEN:** 12 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Miami Art Museum  
**CONTACT:** 305-375-3000

**WHAT:** The Benjamin Project  
**WHEN:** 11 a.m.  
**WHERE:** 174 NW 23 St  
**CONTACT:** 305-571-2288

**WHAT:** Miami City Ballet  
**WHEN:** 8:00 pm  
**WHERE:** Ziff Ballet Opera House  
**CONTACT:** 305-949-6722

SUNDAY • APRIL 5

**WHAT:** Nautica South Beach Triathlon  
**WHEN:** 7:15 a.m.  
**WHERE:** 7th Street and Ocean Drive  
**CONTACT:** 818-707-8867

**WHAT:** Free Museum Access  
**WHEN:** 12 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Miami Art Museum  
**CONTACT:** 305-375-3000

**WHAT:** West Side Story  
**WHEN:** 3 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Roxy Theatre  
**CONTACT:** 305-226-0030

**WHAT:** World's of Fantasy  
**WHEN:** 1 p.m.  
**WHERE:** American Airlines Arena  
**CONTACT:** 786-777-1000

**WHAT:** The Rent Party  
**WHEN:** 8 p.m.  
**WHERE:** The Vagabond  
**CONTACT:** 305-379-0508

- Compiled by Mariana Ochoa



### JOIN OUR STAFF!

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.



# Softball faces top conference team on the road

STEPHANIE GABRIEL

Staff Writer

During a three-game series in North Texas last weekend, the Golden Panthers' sluggers totaled 20 hits in the three-game span and hushed the Mean Green's dugout when three different FIU players sailed home runs out of the park in a single game.

The Golden Panthers will shift their focus to conference opponent, University of Louisiana, this coming weekend.

The team will travel to Louisiana to play three games against the Ragin' Cajuns who currently have an overall record of 20-7, 3-2 in the Sun Belt Conference.

"We've played really well on the road too, so I'm glad we have them at their place," said head coach Beth McClendon. "It's not an easy place to play but we've done so much better on the road."

McClendon said focusing on the road has not been a problem for her team this season.

"Sometimes it helps the team stay focused because there's nothing to do but go out and win the game that day," she said.

The Golden Panthers will look for continued success from the glorified slugger, Kim Rodriguez. With a .323 batting average, the Miami native has totaled 20 RBI already this season along with 23 runs.

The senior went 8-for-12, along with four RBI, over last weekend's series and was named the SBC player of the week for the second time in her career.

Rodriguez hit her fifth home run of the season in the third game of the series, which tied her for the most in

**They swept us last year so we owe them three wins.**

Beth McClendon, head coach  
Softball

a career at FIU with 31.

"She's swinging better and better all of the time, and she's capable of doing that to any team, any pitcher, at any moment," McClendon said.

Freshman Jenny Welch and senior Jessica Landau knocked down the other two homers and FIU took the win in game three, 6-2. The teams split the two previous games with one win each.

FIU's go-to pitcher, Kasey Barrett (10-8), threw two complete games last week, picking up both wins for the Golden Panthers against North Texas.

In fact, the junior has pitched 11 complete games so far this season.

"Kasey has thrown really well; she's had just two bad outings all season," said McClendon. "When you have a No. 1, you throw her in games that are crucial."

With the factors such as lack of momentum and concern about Barrett's stamina, the team's record screams inconsistency.

FIU is currently 19-20 overall, and 3-6 SBC, with just 17 games remaining in the regular season.

Coach McClendon will continue to focus on steadying the offense and



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**SOFT GLOVE:** Infielder Desiree Fink makes a play on a ground ball. The Golden Panthers' offense showed its power against North Texas. Will they be able to duplicate that success against the 20-7 Ragin' Cajuns?

establishing a solid pitching staff.

"We've tried to focus a lot on some of the strengths that UL has and how to defend them, pitch to them, and hit what they throw during the first part of the week in practice and the second part we just focus on what we do well," McClendon said.

Louisiana's batting line-up is stacked with four players who are hitting well over .300 on the season.

Meanwhile, the main threats on the defensive end will be Donna Bourgeois (14-4) and Ashley Brignac (5-2).

Bourgeois posts a 1.22 ERA in the 114.1 innings she has pitched

this season, while Brignac has a 0.25 ERA in 57 innings thus far.

Freshman Jennifer Gniadek (7-8) along with the well-established Barrett, will most likely lead FIU's pitching staff against the Ragin' Cajuns.

Gniadek posts a 2.84 ERA in the 88.2 innings she has pitched this season.

Barrett leads the staff in innings pitched with 133.1 and a 2.15 ERA to go along with 117 strikeouts.

"We're going the exact way we've gone, Kasey two out of three games and Jen the second game," said McClendon. "I think the others

have worked hard and are ready to go at the relief role."

Last time these teams met, in the 2008 season, the Ragin' Cajuns were ranked No. 19 in the nation and swept the series away from the Golden Panthers.

"We've been working really hard to get ready for this team," said Barrett. "They're probably the toughest team in our conference and we really want to win. They swept us last year so we owe them three wins; I think if we bring everything or at least have two of the three of hitting, pitching or defense, we can win the game."

## Alfonso joins group of elite freshmen getting playing time

ALFONSO, page 8

reason that Raiko is on pace to be a player of the caliber of Mollica, one of the most feared hitters in the conference, Mollica was at Central Florida Community College as a freshman hoping to play Division I baseball.

"Wow, that's crazy," Alfonso said when told of Mollica's statements on him. "It's good to hear that. He's the team captain, so I look up to him."

### NOSTALGIC

Alfonso has made the transition to Miami, but it was easier due to the close distance.

In addition, baseball has brought Alfonso to Miami before.

"I mean I miss Key West, but I always used to drive to Miami to play," Alfonso said. "There's only about seven islands back home; it's really big here, but I love it."

Alfonso has also blended in with the Golden Panthers because he relates to the slew of other freshmen contributing to the team.

Pablo Bermudez, starting center fielder, who is also a freshman, noted that he is having more fun playing the game than any other level he has ever been. Alfonso concurs. "It helps me a lot," Alfonso said. "I mean all of us are freshmen and we are trying to compete here in college."

Thomas has had no problem with playing the freshmen this season.

"They have played together in summer tournaments and are a good group of kids," he said. "I have confidence in them."

Alfonso's versatility has progressed his development as a freshman by playing an array of positions in the infield, giving him an ample amount of game experience.

"I mean as long as I'm in the rotation it helps," Alfonso said.

Despite being new to the city, Alfonso has transitioned himself into an elite freshman on the team.

"He's doing really well, he's grown up a lot since the Fall," Mollica said.

## Linebacker corps more aggressive, stronger this Spring

FOOTBALL, page 8

corps is expected to be a strong point for FIU, and it showed this Spring.

"Discipline. We got more aggressive, getting off blocks and swarming to the ball, those were our main objectives," said linebacker Scott Bryant of this Spring.

FIU will see an improvement in depth at linebacker this season, with Aaron Davis being more seasoned, and Winston Fraser returning from injury. The FIU

brass is optimistic.

"Scotty's always been a real steady football player, and all of a sudden you've got Winston Fraser who had to sit out last year, a very smart football player," coach Cristobal said.

The Spring game will take place at the FIU Football Stadium and admission is free.

"We don't hold anything back, truly. We're gonna play football, and we're gonna get better; we don't have a day to blow off. We're gonna knock the heck out of each other," Cristobal said.

### CLASSIFIEDS

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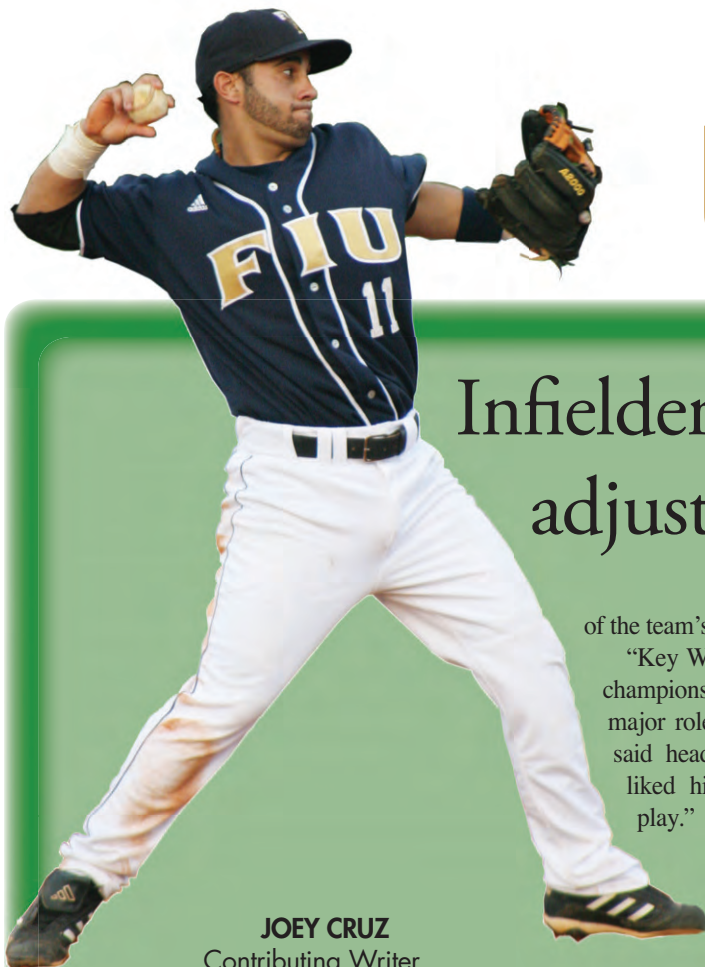
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ROOKIE REPORT: PART 2 OF 5

## FRESH UTILITY



### Infielder impresses co-captain, adjusts to Division I baseball

**JOEY CRUZ**  
Contributing Writer

Raiko Alfonso is in a totally different atmosphere.

"It's different you know, the pitching is a little different," Alfonso said. "The speed is different, you see a lot better pitching often."

It's more than that, however. Alfonso has transitioned from the rural outskirts of the Keys to the metropolitan mega city of Miami. But the change hasn't affected his bat or his glove.

The freshman is playing nearly every position in the infield while hitting nearly .300 for the Golden Panthers. As a primary backup on the team, Alfonso has been an intricate part

of the team's 17-7 start.

"Key West has won numerous state championships and Raiko played a major role in winning one of them," said head coach Turtle Thomas. "I liked his athleticism and style of play."

#### ALL OVER THE FIELD

Thomas has fielded Alfonso at nearly every position in the infield, and the rookie has responded. With a fielding percentage of .971, Alfonso has held his own in the batter's box as well. Along with a .500 slugging average in 42 at-bats, he is also top five on the team in doubles.

"I like playing up the middle, you know middle outfield," Alfonso said.

In a win against University of Arkansas - Little Rock on March 15, the freshman hit a single and was walked while going one for two and helping his team take the series.

Senior infielder Ryan Mollica is impressed with Raiko's performance so far.

"He just learned third base and is doing



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**QUICK LEARNER:** Raiko Alfonso has had to play several positions during his freshman season.

real well over there, and swinging the bat well," Mollica said.

Mollica has tutored Alfonso on occasion, but believes the freshman will soon be an elite player himself.

"He's pretty far along but I help a little bit," Mollica said. "Plus he has really good hands."

Mollica went as far as to suggest Alfonso was better at this stage of his career than himself, an All-Preseason Sun Belt first teamer.

Mollica conceded that Alfonso is more polished at this stage.

Although it seems unfathomable to

**ALFONSO, page 7**

#### FOOTBALL

## Team preps for Blue & Gold game

**ANDREW JULIAN**  
Sports director

FIU will complete its 2009 Spring football campaign with the annual Blue and Gold game on April 3 at 6 p.m.

This will conclude a schedule of 15 practices for the Golden Panthers this Spring, following a 5-7 season where FIU looked like a conference contender at times.

"Guys are competing. Positions that needed work are getting better," said head coach Mario Cristobal, who is entering his third season at the helm for the Golden Panthers. "Overall, we've got a better understanding of what we're trying to do, and [taking] the next step in terms of changing the culture and where we need to get," Cristobal said.

Cristobal also addressed some of the specific players who've made strides, on both sides of the ball.

Wayne Younger, who started for FIU as quarterback in the 2007 season, but was unseated by Paul McCall last season, has had a good Spring, and the FIU head coach has taken note.

"Wayne Younger has really come on strong as of late. He's done some really good things. He provides a different dynamic for us at quarterback," Cristobal said.

Younger missed the final game of the '07 season, an FIU win over North Texas, and saw limited action a year ago.

When asked what he saw in Younger this Spring, coach Cristobal was quick to respond.

"Decision making. I think his attitude is a lot better; it's more hunger, rather than accepting a role as a backup player. Everything he's doing is extremely impressive," Cristobal said.

Another oft mentioned offensive player this Spring has been Jason Frierson. The sophomore receiver, also known as Ty, caught a touchdown pass in each of the final two games last season.

"Ty is just blowing things up out there and making plays," said Paul McCall of Frierson, who led the Golden Panthers in receptions in 2007, but saw a more limited role due to the emergence of T.Y. Hilton and Greg Ellingson.

Defensively, the linebacker

**FOOTBALL, page 7**

BASEBALL: JU 9, FIU 7 (8 INN.)

## Bullpen loses second straight game

**SERGIO BONILLA**  
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers lost another lead.

For the second consecutive game, the baseball team held a lead going into the final three innings of the game and ended up losing.

A 7-5 lead in the bottom of the eighth proved to be fragile as Jorge Marban allowed four runs.

Rain and thunder forced officials to end the game early, and the Golden Panthers fell 9-7 to the Jacksonville University Dolphins on

March 31 on the road.

Jumping out to big leads has not been the issue for the Golden Panthers all season; they obtained a five-run lead in the top of the third. Two Jacksonville errors coupled with a string of hits led to the five runs.

But without one of the team's three top pitchers starting, the Golden Panthers allowed three runs in the bottom half of the third. The Dolphins managed to score the three runs due to four singles and a double. Daniel DeSimone, the Golden Panthers' starting pitcher,

would cough up another run during the bottom of the fourth to cut the lead to 5-4. A sacrifice fly by Derik Grimes tied the game at five.

In the top of the eighth, the Golden Panthers would score some runs for the first time since the third inning. They recaptured the lead with a wild pitch and a bunt. Nonetheless, they led 7-5 in the bottom of the eighth.

Jorge Marban entered the game and could not retire the first four batters. The Dolphins managed to muster only two hits in the inning, but three walks and an error were

enough for them to score four times in the inning. The rain fell, and the game was called off with still just two outs in the inning.

DeSimone finished the night by giving up six runs in five innings of work. Marban was charged with his first loss of the season.

The second game of the series was rained out in Jacksonville.

Catch the results of the next game vs. Jacksonville. For updated gamestories, catch us online.

[www.FIUSM.com](http://www.FIUSM.com)