

Dear FIU Family,

We have won our first bowl game ever!

I take great pleasure in informing you that your FIU Panthers have won the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl in Detroit! Our football team delivered a [34-32 WIN](#) against the University of Toledo.



Head coach Mario Cristobal accepts the Bowl Championship trophy with the team after the Panthers defeated the Rockets in thrilling fashion. Photo courtesy of Sam Lewis.

Our journey to Detroit is symbolic of a university whose tradition has always been to turn the impossible into the inevitable. Our team's hard work and your steadfast support have made this victory possible and I couldn't be more proud of FIU today!

We owe a particular debt of gratitude to students, alumni, members of our volunteer boards and friends who came to Detroit to cheer our team on. You are fantastic fans and I thank you for that. In fact, the support of the entire FIU community has been instrumental in realizing this amazing season that brought us our first Sun Belt Conference Championship. Going forward, we'll need you just as much.

Thanks again for your support. I hope you are having a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to working and cheering with you in 2011.