

4-1-2004

Norman Mailer

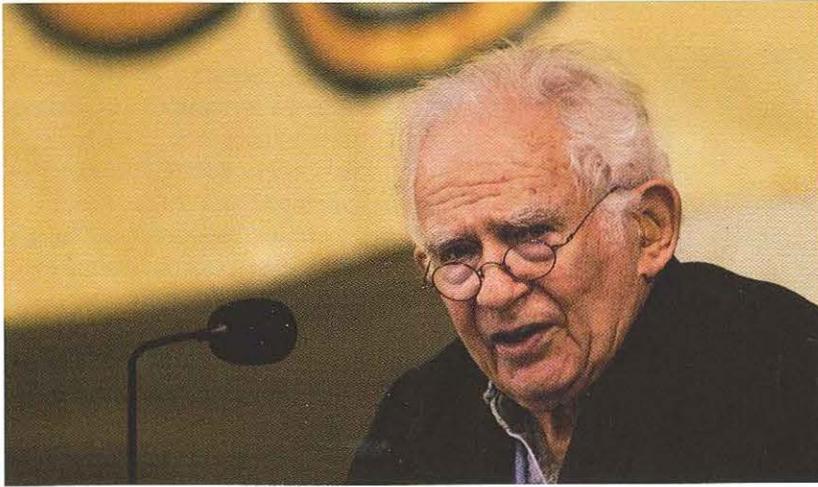
Randolph Fillmore

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GIL WILLIAMS

Norman Mailer

Speaking at the opening of the 32nd Annual Suncoast Writer's Conference hosted by USF St. Petersburg, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Norman Mailer tackled challenging issues of the day.

■ Mailer discussed the role of patriotism in a democracy, the media's ability to portray reality on TV screens, the Islamic threat, Western conceptions and misconceptions of Islam and American identity in a time of crisis following September 11th.

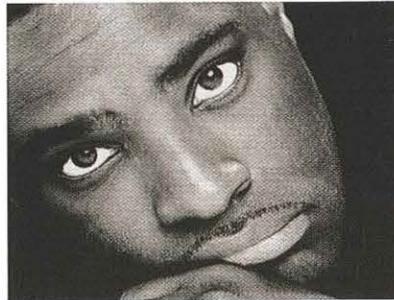
Mailer, a persistent and controversial social conscience for Americans, is co-founder of "The Village Voice" and author of more than 40 books.

—RANDOLPH FILLMORE

Antwone Fisher

Renowned artist and author Antwone Fisher was the featured speaker at a gathering of more than 500 people marking the start of USF's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration.

GETTY IMAGES



■ Born in prison and never knowing his father, Fisher suffered years of emotional and physical abuse as a child until escaping to a life on the streets. In 1977, Fisher enlisted in the United States Navy. During his 11 years in the Navy, he honed his skills as an artist, poet and storyteller.

"Young people have to remember: It's going to rain in your life. That's what life is," Fisher said. "Some days are sunshine, but you have to take the good with the bad. Don't do anything that will make it difficult for you when the sun does come out."

Fisher is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller "Finding Fish," and screenwriter of the film "Antwone Fisher," directed by Academy Award winner Denzel Washington.

—MICHELLE CARLYON

News and Notes

Tom Kane, director of USF Residence Services since 1997, has been awarded the Charles W. Beene Memorial Award. The award recognizes an individual who has contributed most to the success of the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers.

Several prominent individuals have recently spoken or performed at USF. They include:

William D. Phillips, co-recipient of the 1997 Nobel Prize for physics; **Carlos Fuentes**, Mexico's most celebrated author, critic and diplomat; **Mary Lightfine**, seasoned veteran of the Nobel Prize-nominated organization, Doctors without Borders, and Grammy-nominated artist **Dale Warland** and the **Dale Warland Singers**.

Two student transportation researchers at USF have received national honors as outstanding transportation graduate students. **Julie Goodwill** was named Student of the Year by the National Center for Transit Research and **Lavenia Toole-Holt** was named Student of the Year by the Southeastern Transportation Center.

USF mathematics and statistics professor **Chris Tsokos** has been named "Hellene of the Year for Humanities and Education" by *The Hellenic Voice*. Tsokos has published more than 250 research papers, served on the editorial boards of 12 scientific journals and, for the past 25 years, served as an adviser and consultant to the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Army and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.