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in this ISSUE

S.E.A.S. of change

New club hopes to make USF clean and green

by EMMA SYLVESTER

A group of USF St. Petersburg students, faculty and staff have formed a campus organization designed to clean up the environment.

The Student Environmental Awareness Society meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Terrace, room 300. Members are currently working on the club's constitution and hope to have it finished by the end of the month in order to achieve club status. The provisional organization is open to anyone who wishes to join.

"As a new organization, we are just getting started but we are excited about the possibilities," said Danie Cutler, a founding member. "The St. Petersburg community truly has a wealth of resources, knowledge and wonderful people. We are very fortunate to have the support from such a thriving community."

The group's objectives for 2005-2006 include creating a strong foundation for the USFSP Environmental Club, campus sustainability, promoting green building design and standards for new and existing buildings. Other objectives include Florida-friendly landscaping and holding educational outings.

S.E.A.S. wants to provide a network for students, faculty and staff to create a campus community that shares a vision of a clean and green USF.

One of the group's first activities was the Cockroach Bay Salt Marsh Planting on Oct. 8 with Tampa Bay Watch. Members planted about 250,000 salt marsh plants in a restoration area. Future outings may include kayaking, canoeing, beach cleanups, hiking and camping.

On Saturday, Nov. 5, the group was scheduled to help plant native plants at the Clam Bayou Preserve.

After their next meeting on Thursday, Nov. 10 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., members will begin a clean-up along the Harborside seawall near Davis Hall from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

The group is also planning Harbor Day to promote respect for Bayboro Harbor. The goal of the event, which will include at least one guest speaker, is to promote the group's initiatives and lay the foundation for a complete festival next year.

"We'd like to have many different perspectives expressing what Bayboro Harbor means to us, scientifically, socially, culturally - many points of view," said Cutler.

S.E.A.S. members will travel to Fort Desoto on Nov. 20.

Reasoning as a sport

by GENESSA POTH

USFSP hosts Ethics Bowl

USF St. Petersburg hosted the Second Annual Southeastern Regional Ethics Bowl on Saturday. The event, which was held in Davis Hall and the Steidinger Auditorium, attracted 16 teams from 13 schools. USF Tampa took fourth place.

Although it was hosting the event, the campus did not have a team participating in the bowl.

"I had a good feeling going into the competition," said team manager Rhi Dodds.

The debate-style competition featured one moderator and three judges per round. Each discussion topic was randomly chosen out of the set of 12 case studies written by Dodds. The moderator then posed a question relating to the topic at hand, such as whether or not it is ethical to allow the use of memory-saving drugs.

Each team then gave a presentation supporting its view on the topic. This was followed by the opposing team's commentary and a rebuttal to the presenting team's response to the commentary.

Finally, judges were given the topic for a new incident to arise, which we deemed unfair. The team's comments were weighed against the president's and vice president's comments to determine the winning team.

"The wife was not available and the new incident arose, which we deemed unfair. The team's comments were weighed against the president's and vice president's comments to determine the winning team."

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Back on track:

The Bulls return to their winning ways against Rutgers.

by JUSTIN LOWERY

Many USF students, faculty and staff were spared a major inconvenience on Oct. 28 when two Internet service providers agreed to continue to exchange Internet traffic.

The feud between Level 3 Communications and USF's ISP, Cogent Communications, could have caused a lot of trouble for those who use AOL, Verizon or Earthlink to connect to USF's Web site from home.

"Anybody wanting to access USF from home wouldn't have been able to," said Joe Rogers, network administrator for USF.

"Blackboard, USF e-mail, Oasis - nothing would have been available."

Had that occurred, many individuals would have had to either go to campus or use a compatible ISP - including Road Runner - in order to access their online classes.

Internet service providers like Level 3 and Cogent share users and traffic, allowing users to move from site to site. Level 3 became unhappy with Cogent after receiving what it believed to be an increase in traffic. Level 3 said it would be being compensated for the increase and threatened to disconnect from Cogent on Nov. 9.

With the dispute resolved, the two companies' networks will continue to exchange traffic, subject to specific payments if certain obligations are not met. The specific details of the agreement were not available.

Jeff Henriksen, director of marketing communications for Cogent, seemed fairly certain that there won't be any further problems under the new agreement. "Customers are protected by a requirement to provide notification to both customers should a new incident arise, which we
LEARN TO DEAL WITH STRESS
The Academic Success Center will hold an information session on “Managing Academic Stress” on Thursday, Nov. 10 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on Monday, Nov. 14, from noon to 1 p.m. in Terrace, room 400. For more information, contact Diane McKinstry at 553-4632.

USF HOLIDAY CLOSINGS
There will be no classes held at USF on Veteran’s Day, Friday, Nov. 11, or during the Thanksgiving holiday, Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 25.

MULTICULTURAL FEAST
The Center for Multicultural Affairs will host the Second Annual Multicultural Feast on Wednesday, Nov. 16 from noon to 2 p.m. Partake of and learn about foods from all across the world while enjoying music and dancing. The event will be held in Davis Hall, room 130. For more information, contact Steve Marshall at 553-4845.

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON
A scholarship luncheon in honor of scholarship donors and recipients will be held on Friday, Nov. 18. The invitation-only luncheon will start at noon to 1 p.m. in Terrace, room 130. For more information, contact Sudy Tschiderer at 553-4842.

FLU SHOT CLINIC
Flu shots will be offered to students, faculty and staff on Friday, Nov. 18, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Terrace, room 300. The cost is $25 per shot. For more information, contact Regina Young-Hyatt at 553-4180.

GET MOTIVATED
The Academic Success Center will hold an information session on “Achievement and Motivation” on Monday, Nov. 13, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Terrace, room 130. For more information, contact Diane McKinstry at 553-4632.

COMEDY NIGHT
The Harborside Activities Board presents Comedy Night with comedians Marissa Maria, Sirk and Jeremy Schachtler on Friday, Nov. 18. The event will be in Davis Hall, room 130 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Harborside at 553-4599.

As Professor Ron Hill's service as dean of the College of Business nears an end, the university is taking steps to provide for a smooth transition period while also maintaining close ties with the business community.

On Oct. 18, USF St. Petersburg Regional Chancellor Karen A. White and USF President Judy Genshaft met with Don Shea, CEO and president of the St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership, a nonprofit business group. Shea and members of the Downtown Partnership had expressed their displeasure with what they viewed as Hill’s dismissal in a letter sent to Genshaft and White, among others. The letter also announced that the Downtown Partnership would withhold its support for the university “until the University demonstrates some meaningful examples of good faith and collaboration with the community.”

At the meeting, Shea said he was asked for the creation of a campus outreach committee that would routinely interact with the community and for the university to layout its vision for working with the community.

“We spent a considerable amount of time talking about ways to have a positive collaboration going forward without regard to Ron Hill,” Shea said. “The ball is in Karen White’s court to come up with things we can help promote. There’s some optimism here that we can establish a good working relationship.”

White echoed that sentiment. “One of the things I hope comes from this meeting is the continued support from the business community for the students and their programs,” White said. She emphasized that the university will continue to work in the community and with local business.

“The president and I have outlined a project to survey the business community for the kinds of educational requirements Pinellas County businesses need to be successful,” White said. She added that she intends to include Shea as part of that process.

“We want him to help us with a survey regarding program expansion or refinement so that we can benefit the long-term growth of business in Pinellas County,” White said.

As to the vacancy that will be left with Hill stepping down, White said she expects a retired provost or former dean of business to handle the interim duties for the spring semester. Whoever fills that role will be responsible for faculty evaluations, tenure and promotion, scheduling classes, budget issues and the hiring of faculty.

Despite the change in leadership, White said the students at the College of Business will continue to be well served and feel no effect from administrative changes. She also mentioned the important role the faculty will play during this transition period.

I’m hoping the faculty of the college will be not only supportive, but provide additional leadership in guiding the college,” White said. “The university is designed to have faculty leadership.”

Regarding the process of finding a permanent dean, White said she is going to encourage Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Mark Durand to appoint a search committee as early as the first week of December. That committee will include student and faculty representatives as well as a member of the community. The search is expected to end sometime in July.
The Plame game

by Anthony Salvaggi

With the recent indictment of a senior official in the Bush administration in the CIA leak case, Democrats smell blood in the water. But if history has taught them anything, they would be wise to remain spectators as the drama unfolds.

For those unfamiliar with the background to the story, here’s a quick recap:

In Feb. 2002, U.S. ambassador Joseph Wilson was sent to investigate claims that Iraq had tried to purchase yellowcake uranium from the country of Niger.

In his 2003 State of the Union address, President Bush announced that the British government had uncovered evidence that Iraq had attempted such a transaction.

In July of 2003, Wilson wrote an op-ed piece in the New York Times that criticized the Bush administration for suggesting that Iraq had tried to purchase uranium from Niger.

About a week later, syndicated columnist Robert Novak wrote that Wilson’s wife, Valerie Plame, was a CIA operative and likely responsible for Wilson getting the assignment to Niger. He cited “two senior administration officials” as his sources.

A former prosecutor was assigned to investigate a possible crime. Journalists jumped at the notion that not only were Bush officials trying to smear Wilson for publicly contradicting the administration, but that they did so at the expense of possibly breaking the 1982 Intelligence Protection Act, which makes it illegal for a government official to disclose classified information without authorization.

In the two years since, the case has taken a number of intriguing plot turns. New York Times reporter Judith Miller and CBS correspondent Bob Simon were subpoenaed to testify about conversations they had with Miller. Miller has since resigned from his position in the White House.

About two weeks ago, Libby was indicted by a grand jury for perjury in his testimony regarding those conversations he had with Miller. Libby has since resigned from his position in the White House.

The official in this case is Karl Rove, the president’s adviser and guru behind his political career. Matthew Cooper, a reporter for Time magazine who has also testified in the case, said he learned that Libby’s wife worked for the CIA and made fun of the notion that not only were Bush officials trying to smear Wilson for publicly contradicting the administration, but that they did so at the expense of possibly breaking the 1982 Intelligence Protection Act.

The continued emphasis on the “CIA leak” is funded each semester by advertising revenue. The continued emphasis on the “CIA leak” is funded each semester by advertising revenue.

The continued emphasis on the “CIA leak” is funded each semester by advertising revenue.
Sleuthing technology

Professors at USF use software to detect plagiarism

by CHRISTINA CASTELLANA
staff writer

Detecting plagiarism is a problem that nearly every university must confront. At the University of South Florida, a computer software program called Safe Assignment allows professors to check their students' assignments for copyright violations.

"At the University of South Florida, a computer software program called Safe Assignment allows professors to check their students' assignments for copyright violations," Assistant Professor Cynthia Bean of the College of Business started using Safe Assignment at the beginning of the fall semester and has been pleased with the results. She collects student assignments electronically via a link on Blackboard, a Web-based course management system. From this link, she can send the assignments through the plagiarism program to screen for copyright violations.

Safe Assignment software scans each paper and matches any information found to be identical with outside sources, such as other student papers or electronic document databases on the Internet. Once the program has fully analyzed an essay, a detailed report scores the essay, a detailed report scores the essay, a detailed report scores the essay, a detailed report scores the essay, a detailed report scores the essay, a detailed report scores the essay, a detailed report scores the essay, a detailed report scores the essay.

The final decision in deciding whether or not a student has violated copyright laws rests with the professor. Bean said. She informs students in the class syllabus that she uses the plagiarism program in her class and added that she has not had any problems with plagiarism thus far.

For professors who are not acquainted with Safe Assignment, the tutorial for the program is located on the USF website (see FACT BOX below). Students can also access the tutorial and see what their professors are doing to ensure original material is being submitted.

Eleanor Snow, a geology professor at USF Tampa, helped develop the tutorial, which is entitled "The Fraud of Plagiarism: The Skill of Paraphrasing." The tutorial is broken down into 11 sections and covers topics such as "What is Plagiarism," "Examples of Proper and Improper Writing" and "How is Plagiarism Like Speeding." The tutorial ends with a short quiz that reviews the information covered in the various sections.

Under the tutorial section entitled "Why is Plagiarism Wrong," Snow lists three reasons why students should resist the temptation to use someone else's words: "It is unethical," "It is illegal," and "It is against all academic codes of conduct." All universities have rules against plagiarism, with punishments ranging from receiving an "F" on the assignment to dismissal from the university.

The gentle art

For one USFSP student, judo is more than physical activity; it is a way of living.

by WENDY OWEN
senior staff writer

Wearing a white robe, he stretches, instructing his students in a rigorous warm-up. With ease, he tumbling across the aerobics mats while new students look on and try to emulate him. They are practicing the Japanese art of judo and there is a sense of tranquility that comes from its methods, which are based on gentleness.

"Judo helps develop self-discipline and respect for oneself and others," Gediminas Pakalnis, 22, says. Pakalnis is an internationally-renowned judo champion. A transfer student from St. Petersburg College, he is a junior in his first year at USF St. Petersburg. In 2003, he moved to the United States from his home country of Lithuania, where he was studying to be a judo coach. He is now an instructor at the St. Petersburg Judo Club, which holds classes every Wednesday and Saturday at the Campus Activities Center.

"Judo helps develop self-discipline and respect for oneself and others," Pakalnis said. "Judo also teaches self-confidence, concentration and leadership skills as well as physical abilities such as coordination, power and flexibility."

Pakalnis is "a person of exceptional high quality," said fellow coach, Gen. Robert Cockney, who won first place at the 2005 U.S. Senior Ladder Competition.

"He has a unique European, Soviet Bloc style of judo," Cockney said. "Experience in this type of judo is necessary for U.S. athletes if they are to be competitive in world championships."

"Judo, which translates into English as "gentle way," is not only a martial art and a sport; it is a philosophy. It was developed from the art of another Japanese martial art, jujitsu, by Jigoro Kano in 1882. Judo involves spectacular combinations of throwing techniques, choking techniques, specialized pins and arm locks," Pakalnis, who's been competing in the Olympic sport since 1990, has an impressive collection of wins under his belt. He has competed and won in several international events, including the Dutch Open in 1998, the Polish Open in 1999 and the Latvian Open in 1999.

In Lithuania, Pakalnis is a highly decorated judo contender and has won a number of tournaments in various weight divisions. Fond of engaging in physical activity, he also competes in Sambo, a Russian-style of wrestling and in track.

Currently, Pakalnis is taking a break from competing due to back injuries not related to judo. But that isn't stopping him from helping others to compete.

"Right now, I coach national level competitors here at St. Petersburg Judo School and share my knowledge and competition experience here at the USF St. Petersburg campus with students and local athletes," Pakalnis said.

After his recovery, Pakalnis plans to prepare for the Collegiate National Championships. Although he is still healing, he continues to practice judo almost every day.

"It is a great sport for both men and women of all ages," Pakalnis said. "Just come and try once and you will find out what is judo about," Pakalnis said.
Bringing out the best

New Honors Program director looks to recruit area's brightest students

by ANTHONY SALVEGGI

JUDO CLASS

At the Campus Activities Center on Nov. 2, Gediminas Pakalnis, 22, a junior in the Honors program and judo coach, demonstrates to Andres Hernandez, 20, how to properly perform a knee sweep. This movement makes the opponent lose balance and fall.

In its leadership may have changed hands, but the dedication to excellence at USF St. Petersburg's unique Honors Program remains. Associate Professor Thomas Smith, who has been with the campus since 2000 as a professor of political science, became the new head of the program at the beginning of August. He previously served as its interim director during fall 2002, while Professor Ray Arsenault was on sabbatical. Last year, Arsenault hired V. Mark Durand, then the dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, about having Smith take over as the program's permanent leader.

Since 1995, Arsenault had been director of the Honors Program, to which he said he has been "deeply committed."

But between his duties as co-director of the Florida Studies Program and his work on the forthcoming "Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice," a book he's been working on for the past 10 years, Arsenault felt the time had come to pull back a bit and hand over the leadership role to someone else.

"Thomas was the obvious choice," Arsenault said. "He's one of the most distinguished scholars and successful teachers on campus." Even though he has stepped down, Arsenault has become the program's associate director.

The program, which is independent of the Honors College on the Tampa campus, has an interdisciplinary approach that covers the sciences and humanities. Students accepted into the program must major in a discipline offered on the St. Pete campus.

After fulfilling the core curriculum requirements, students are required to complete a year-long senior thesis. The first thesis semester consists of settling on a topic, collecting background information, compiling a bibliography and beginning the writing process. During the second semester, the student completes the thesis. The candidate must then give an oral defense before a two-to-three-person faculty committee. Students who graduate receive an Honors Program designation on their diplomas, a distinction that Smith said gives them an advantage when applying to graduate school.

Since taking over the program, Smith has raised the standards for admission. Freshmen must have at least a 3.7 grade point average and a minimum SAT math/verbal score of 1250 or an ACT score of 29 or above. Those entering as juniors are required to have a minimum university GPA of 3.5. Everyone accepted into the program receives a $500 scholarship per semester.

"My goal is always to get the best students we can get," Smith said. "We see the Honors Program as a way to lift the academic tide on campus."

Currently, about 90 students are in the program. This fall, Honors welcomed 25 freshmen and 5 upper-level transfers.

Later this semester, Smith plans to visit local schools in order to recruit some of the area's brightest students. He's currently targeting the International Baccauluareate programs at Palm Harbor, St. Petersburg, and Shorecrest high schools, hoping to recruit them for fall 2008.

"Our perfect student is someone who could go to a great school in New England but wants to stay here," Smith said, adding that the majority of students are from the Tampa Bay area, with SAT scores ranging from 1200 to 1450.

Most of the classes are taught by full-time campus faculty. Although the broad course topics remain consistent, the titles change from semester to semester, keeping with the program's fluid nature and dedication to interdisciplinary perspectives. This term, Assistant Professor of English Joyce Walker is teaching a freshman class where students are making movies for the "Arts and Humanities" seminar. For next semester's Honors Seminar, Assistant Professor of Art History Sheramy Bandrick will teach "Image and Identity in Fifth-Century Athens.

Smith said he hopes to enhance the program, bringing in faculty with expertise in business and economics to teach classes. He would also like to build a pre-med program, similar to the one offered at the Honors College in Tampa.

"This is supposed to be one of the biggest challenges students will ever face," Smith said, adding that he wants to "bring out the best in these students."

To learn more, visit the Honors Program Web site at www.stpt.usf.edu/coas/honors/index.htm.
Bulls crush Knights

Team capitalizes on mistakes

by TAMMY BARTHELLET
staff writer

Despite not playing in 21 days, the USF Bulls were in full stride Saturday afternoon in New Jersey, beating their Big East rivals from Rutgers 45-31. Turnovers told the story of the day, the Scarlet Knights four times and recovered two fumbles.

The Bulls started the game with a 10-play, 83-yard drive that was capped off by running back Andre Hall's two-yard touchdown Saturday afternoon in New Jersey, beating their Big East rivals from Rutgers 45-31.

The score was 31-17 going into halftime after Rutgers had recovered two fumbles.

In the second half, the Bulls were in full control. The Knights' offense also got on track, scoring two touchdowns within three minutes to trail by only six, 37-31. But with less than three minutes to go in the game, the Knights committed another costly turnover, throwing an interception for Bulls touchdown by Pat Julmiste.

Hall had another big game, scoring three touchdowns on 16 carries for 168 yards. Julmiste finished the day with 13 of 21 passing and 135 yards.

With the win, the Bulls also moved up to second place in the Big East, behind rival West Virginia.

The Bulls play at Syracuse this Saturday. The Orange have yet to win a conference game this season.

For those who purchased a ticket to the USF-West Virginia game, the USF Athletics Web site says:

"USF maintains a no-refund policy for purchased tickets to all games.

However, due to the unusual circumstances involved in the date change for USF-West Virginia, USF will review refund requests for that game only on a case-by-case basis.

Any such request must be made via e-mail to usfinderticketinfo@usf.edu.

Requests must include the number of tickets purchased, where the tickets were purchased and a reason for the refund request.

No requests will be considered beyond November 20, 2005."

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NEWS FROM STUDENT LIFE

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

Native American Display
In honor of Native American History Month
Davis Lobby

Harborside Live Presents:
The Michael Southern Band
Wednesday, Nov. 16
4-6 pm
Harborside Lawn

Sponsored by Harborside Activities Board

REMEMBER...

New Hours for the Swimming Pool:
Lap Swim 7 am to 9 am
Monday through Friday &
Open Swim 11 am to 6 pm
Monday through Sunday

Adult CPR & First Aid Class
Friday, Nov. 18
9 am to 3 pm
Register at the Campus Activities Center
Visit us online at
www.stpt.usf.edu/studentlife

FINALLY...

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No prior experience necessary.
Call the Waterfront Office for details at 553-4597.

SAFE Team
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Hours are Mon-Thurs 6:30 to 10:30 pm
553-4SAF

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Northeast Exchange Club's
Ribfest 2005
Presented by
Kash n' Karry, Smithfield, Vinoy Park
On the Waterfront, St. Petersburg
Gates Open & Festivities Begin at 11am Daily

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Stage

| Urban Gypsys | Cuban Sandwich Crisis | Heat Seeker |
| Black Maria | Trick Shot | Blue Wall |
| Burn Season | Cuban Sandwich Crisis | Lennon |
| Nonpoint    | Crooked Edge | |
|             | Socialburn | |

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Lunch with Lucy Morgan

The Pulitzer Prize winner gave an intimate look into her many years covering Florida politics

by ANTHONY SALVEGGI

Lucy Morgan has seen a lot of Florida legislators and lobbyists come and go over the five decades she has been a reporter with the St. Petersburg Times. The paper's Tallahassee bureau chief since 1986, she gave insights into her career, Florida politics and the profession of journalism in a recent visit to USF St. Petersburg.

About 40 faculty, staff and students gathered in Davis Hall, room 130 on Oct. 31 to listen to Morgan, who addressed the audience for just over an hour.

Morgan reflected on the modest beginnings to her career when she was 25 and with three children under the age of 6. She had no journalism degree and only one journalism course to her credit.

"I don't think any newspaper would hire me today," Morgan said.

During her talk, Morgan conveyed her concern for the future of newspapers and journalism in light of corporate takeovers.

"Independent media is dying as fast as chains can gobble them up," she said.

"So many papers for reasons of money are giving up investigative journalism." Despite the grim scenario, Morgan added that she doesn't think papers will die out as others have predicted. She said that alternative news media such as blogs may be good for journalism in the long run as they allow more people to have a voice.

When asked what she felt are the most pressing issues facing the state, Morgan cited rising medical costs and education funding in light of the class size amendment.

"The higher education system may be as screwed up as I've even seen it," Morgan said.

In addition to her serious comments, Morgan's talk was also sprinkled with humorous anecdotes, including one about receiving documents in the women's fitting room of a Belk Lindsay department store.

Morgan candidly responded to one question about whether she plans to write a book about her extensive career.

"If I live long enough and can get my act together, I'm gonna give it a try," Morgan said.

On being a female reporter in Tallahassee:

"Being a southern woman in a capital full of good old boys is really great. They don't take me seriously until it's too late."

On who she considers the most disappointing political figure she has covered:

Former governor Lawton Chiles, who "was not good for the environment or education."

On her biggest surprise:

Attorney General Charlie Crist. "I did not expect him to be as good an attorney general as he is."

Advice for budding journalists:

"Way too many reporters want to jump in Watergate-style. Way too much journalism is shooting rubber bands at somebody. . . . You have to like all kinds of people and have to like dealing with them."

On covering state and local governments:

"Reporters have to learn how the system really works before covering it. Learn the history of law that applies to it. Develop contacts who aren't in the system but know the system."

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For more information email housing@stpt.usf.edu, or contact Residence Life at (727) 553-4162.