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Al-Arian wants to return

By Aya Batrawy
Contributing Writer

USF professor Sami Al-Arian said he knows little about former colleagues' connections to militant Palestinian groups, and has no connections with terrorism despite a past working relationship with at least one current member of Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

Sami Al-Arian, professor of computer engineering at USF Tampa, is on paid leave following inflammatory comments he made on The O'Reilly Factor, a television news program. USF President Judy Genshaft decided on his removal from campus for safety reasons.

In an attempt to suppress anxiety and fear among students and faculty, USF President Judy Genshaft wrote a letter to students and alumni on September 28th. In the opening paragraph it stated, "We [USF] are compelled to write and let you know what actions we are taking to help out students deal with the impact of these events [of September 11th]."

The controversy brewing around the professor erupted from issues in the mid-1990s when Al-Arian was investigated by the FBI for suspected links to terrorist activity. His appearance on The O'Reilly Factor, a tabloid-like news show aired on FOX News, brought Al-Arian's past back to the forefront.

The host, Bill O'Reilly, asked Al-Arian several questions about men with whom the professor had associated nearly a decade ago. Since O'Reilly's interview, controversy and confusion have stormed USF.

During the program O'Reilly asked Al-Arian to prove his innocence from any affiliation with known terrorist activity. He asked him about Ramadan Abdullah Shahlah, an old associate, and then asked him about his brother-in-law, Mazen Al-Najjar who was jailed for over two years under secret evidence unavailable to the public or even his family. He said both men played little or no role in his professional life.

Shortly after Al-Arian appeared on The O'Reilly Factor he received death threats on campus. According to Dean Louis Vega and Provost David Stamps: "Clearly the presence of Dr. Al-Arian on campus at this time adversely affects the operation of the university. Dr. Al-Arian should not be present at the University of South Florida in light of concerns for safety."

Al-Arian was shocked by the news. "I am attached to my students and feel so disappointed that I was asked to be on paid leave. I hope I soon return to my students and classes," he said.

Al-Arian also works with students outside the university. He assists students at the Islamic Academy of Florida, a private, accredited Islamic school. The school provides all major subjects and electives but also offers Islamic and Arabic courses.

Al-Arian's students, he said, seemed resigned to the results of the controversy. "They understand that we are victims of bias and stereotypes. The older students have a much better understanding."

The professor also said that his own children are extremely saddened, but on the other hand it gives them a spark to fight for civil rights. "They are determined to reach out," he said. All of his children were born in the United States.

In the early 1990s, a professor from Harvard published a thesis titled "Clash of Civilization" that focused on disparities between Islam and the Western World. In a response to this thesis Al-Arian helped create World Islam Studies Enterprise, also called WISE, in 1991.

The goal was to bring understanding between Western and Middle-Eastern thought. There was to be a roundtable discussion between Muslim intellectuals from all over the Middle East and some 25 intellectual Western ideologists. "We believe in civilization dialogue," he said.

The series was to begin it's writing in Washington, but by then the Gulf War was beginning to mobilize. Shortly after, the sponsors withdrew their support for the project. The series then moved to Tampa and was completed by the mid-1990s. According Al-Arian, critics of the project were in opposition to the idea because it "would bring balance to a biased party that is anti-Islam."

What O'Reilly others found suspicious was that Shahlah, who left USF in 1995 and is now a Jihad militant in
Attacks change America forever
By Cindy Goebbels Contributing Writer

I was nearly last to board the overbooked Southwest flight from Tampa to Baltimore. As I walked the full length of the plane to my seat, every single passenger stared at me. I asked an unspoken question. I studied them and asked the same question. Can I trust you? Subbed conversation resumed after take off. When the wheels squelched as they touched earth and the plane slowed, one person applauded.

My return trip was via land, not sky. From the Tepac Pool Bridge, I looked south down the Hudson river to the smoke-filled gap where the Trade Towers once reigned supreme. Later, from the Capital Beltway, I looked north up the Potomac river to the sharp spire of the Washington Monument and the Capital Building dome. The Pentagon is just minutes from the monument.

Our battery died at the bitter end of the New Jersey Turnpike. In Dan’s Automotive store, my boyfriend conversed with Dan, the owner, a volunteer fireman who helped during the first two weeks after the terrorist attack. The fireman spoke of breaking into dust-laden abandoned cars and stripping them of batteries to supply power to the cutting equipment with which they hoped to free the live victims that were never found.

Freeway traffic was light, mostly trucks. Restaurants and motel parking lots were sparsely populated. American flags adorned motor homes, pick-up trucks, overhead. The news reported anthrax in Washington, D.C. I continued enjoying the comedy. It was hilarious to watch between rows of cars. I was about 5:30 and the parking lot was jam-packed. I decided it would be through that realm that my revenge would come.

I noticed the usual pack of late-comers trying to get in. It was about 5:30 and the parking lot was jam-packed. I was thinking of my dilemma while I walked to my car. I made my way to my car that I noticed the usual pack of late-comers trying to park. I talked to the driver of a car and asked to follow me. I'd be driving the car and make the smoke-filled gap where the Trade Towers once reigned supreme.

I figured that parking was one of the things that angered me the most, so I decided it would be through that realm that my revenge would come.

Not too long after this I was thinking of my dilemma while I walked to my car. It was about 5:30 and the parking lot was jam-packed. I was making my way to my car that I noticed the usual pack of late-comers trying to park. I talked to the driver of a car and asked to follow me. I'd be driving the car and make the smoke-filled gap where the Trade Towers once reigned supreme.

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Parking lot manhunt
By Jason Gell Contributing Writer

Around this time every year, I get going on one of my rants about things at USF that annoy me. This year, with hopes of graduation two months away, I have decided not to buckle the system that holds my future in its claws, but instead to find some sort of therapy to cope with my grievances.

I figured that parking was one of the things that angered me the most, so I decided it would be through that realm that my revenge would come.

Not too long after this I was thinking of my dilemma while I walked to my car. It was about 5:30 and the parking lot was jam-packed. I was making my way to my car that I noticed the usual pack of late-comers trying to park. I talked to the driver of a car and asked to follow me. I'd be driving the car and make the smoke-filled gap where the Trade Towers once reigned supreme.

This was my opportunity.

I began to walk between rows of cars to throw the parking lot scavengers off my trail and give new ones an implied chance of capturing me. As soon as another hopeful candidate would pick up the scent, I would switch rows again in search of a new victim. There were even times when I would just lean against an unknown car, which was already parked, and smoke a cigarette while I talked on my phone. Thankfully the owners never came using their ride as a bench.

It was hilarious to me. No matter where I went, people would follow with out using any common sense. I probably walked around the lot for 20 minutes, just enjoying the comedy.

From this experience I have added a new item to the list of extracurricular activities at USF.

It is called “Parking Lot Manhunt.” The rules are simple and the strategies are varied. The first, and most effective way to do this is to walk around the parking lot with your keys in your hand. This will maximize your potential victim list and it will give you a fine workout, too.

The only problem with this is you don’t always get to look at peoples’ faces while you’re doing it. This, in turn, minimizes your overall enjoyment. Watching the look of helpfulness drain from a person’s face as you cross over a row of cars is priceless, and not to be something that is missed. Sometimes you have to wait it out.

The second method is walking directly to your car during a busy time of the day. Once you “book” at least two cars and get them to follow you, open your door and sit down in your seat. Start the car, turn on the radio, smoke a cigarette, make a phone call, or, God forbid, you can even study.

Don’t make your actions blatant, as this will instantly cause your victims to go elsewhere. This technique requires a little role-playing and acting skill, but the results are well worth it.

Make sure to adjust on all or all of your mirrors in the car so you can watch the expressions on the peoples’ faces as time ticks by.

Some might say this game is cruel, but I think it is a cheap and effective method of therapy for people. No one really gets hurt in this game, and it is easy to play anywhere that parking is a problem.

Nothing lifts the human spirit faster and higher than a little suffering in our fellow man. It’s like watching the guy on TV get hit in the crotch. We know it hurts, we...
As most Florida colleges and universities struggle to increase the number of minority students enrolled, legal hurdles might make the task more difficult.

The University of Florida announced in August that it would issue no new scholarships based on the race of applying students. UF attributed their decision to the increasing likelihood that race-based scholarships are or will be illegal.

Heller, is leading a recruiting effort to bring more minority students to USF. "Dr. Heller told me he'd like the campus to be fifty-fifty," said Gibbons, meaning 50 percent and 50 percent minority. "That is what's ideal." Although the numbers are nowhere near the long-term goal, the right attitude for change has arrived. "We talked to recruiters and asked them to make the campus as inviting as it can be," said Winston Bridges, associate dean of USF St. Petersburg. "We know the numbers need to be better."

Gibbons' ideas include developing relationships with civic organizations to increase awareness that USF is interested in having minority students. He also expects progress to come through relationships with the faith-based organizations in the area. "By doing things like 'college night' or 'college day' at churches, we can bring out people who might not otherwise apply to USF," said Gibbons.

Along with campus improvements like autonomy and new faculty, and despite its infancy in a recruiting effort, minority enrollment has increased. Of the 3,507 students enrolled last fall, 555 were minority students. This fall there are 3,917 students, and 662 are minority students. Despite the modest improvements, the long-term goals are much higher.

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Besides scholarships that cater to minority students there are a number of student services to attract new students and help current students. Project Thrust, for example, is a student retention program that's open to everyone, but serves mostly African-American students. Its director, Wayne Wilson, is optimistic that it can help new minority students.

"The goal is that the students graduate, but knowing that there is help to offer to new or potential students." Project Thrust offers a variety of services including tutoring, teaching time management skills and finding small sources of funding for some students. When Gibbons was interviewed, he was participating in Project Thrust in the last year, although he's not sure of an exact number.

Tutoring, he said, is a major draw for students. "Math is the most common subject students need tutoring in," he said. In addition to Project Thrust's offer, Bridges said there is a math center that's being developed by two new faculty members.

There are a number of students that found funding through the program. "Financial assistance spent to verify becomes available in mid-semster," he said.

For various reasons, this unexpected funding arises and is less competitively sought because most people are searching for money at the beginning and end of each semester.

"Going to be aggressive about this," said Gibbons. "I'm going to get the word out that there's a program here for minorities. We're going to help every kid that comes however we can."

Autonomy swamps financial aid office

By Karen Steen
Contribution Writer

Jennifer Clarke is a hard person to pin down for an interview, especially in the height of autumn. Despite the impending deadlines of mid-term, when USF students need her most.

On a recent afternoon, Clarke, assistant director of financial aid, tried to sit down for an interview but kept getting interrupted. Clarke dashed out of the office, saying she'd be right back. When she returned, she explained how St. Petersburg's new autonomy has left her busier than ever.

In July, the Florida legislature granted USF St. Petersburg authority to seek separate accreditation, which meant assuming greater responsibility for campus operations.

Clarke's office felt the growing pains. The verification process of student loans, previously handled by the Tampa campus, was handed to Clarke in June. At that point, nothing had been processed for the St. Petersburg students, and classes were to begin in August. Clarke immediately went to work.

"I'm not going to have students with no money ready the first week of classes. We put in extra hours, hired extra people and worked extremely hard to get this up and going," she said.

Since then her office has processed 80 percent of the financial aid applicants on the St. Petersburg campus. Approximately 1,400 students have applied for financial aid. She says that of all the financial groups throughout the USF system, her group is ranked second in processing student verifications. She credits a close-knit staff and its desire to help her and the students.

It hasn't been easy. Processing is just one part of the big financial aid picture. "A financial aid staff member needs to verify a loan application is one hour. Today, approximately 70 applications sit in the stack. Clarke said the stack never disappears because students apply for aid throughout the year."

Negotiating the clerical help with the new autonomy, Clarke recruited Erin Dunn, an energetic former student government president with a marketing degree. Asked why she'd be willing to work 10-12 hour days at little better than minimum wage, Dunn said, "It's a family here. I really enjoy helping people here and it's satisfaction for myself. If I can help somebody else out, it's worth it to me. If I am able to give them (a student) the call, to tell them I got something done for them, it makes it all worth it."

Since the transition, the St. Petersburg staff has had to overcome numerous obstacles. Adjustment to new equipment and software has eaten up office hours in training sessions and breakdowns. A helpful piece of equipment scans the students' documents to save time and paper consumed when records were transferred from one campus to another by courier. However, the scanner has broken down repeatedly, adding to the pressure.

On top of everything else, illness caused the absence of several staff members...
Student governments oppose new athletic fee increases

By Larry Halstead
Contributing Writer

No taxation without representation. Those words have been used throughout the history of our country and they appear in a letter to Judy Ginshaft, president of USF, from student government presidents of the regional campuses.

The topic is athletic fees. The regional campuses recently received a letter requesting a representative from each campus to sit on an athletic committee. Instead of sending two representatives, the student governments questioned the fairness of the committee.

The letter quoted Florida Statute 240.235, which addresses how athletic fees are to be governed by athletic fee committees, at least one-half of whom are students appointed by the student body president. The remainder of the committee shall be appointed by the university president.

The letter suggests that the athletic department make presentations regarding their fee requests to each regional campus. The student government presidents feel that a central athletic committee will be inherently unfair to regional campuses and, because the Tampa campus could outvote the regional representatives, any regional concern could be ignored.

Rather than send students to a central athletic committee, the student government presidents propose forming separate committees on each campus. According to the letter, that will promote more fairness because of the perspective of the regional campuses.

Supporting the letter were David Fleming, president of student government, USF Lakeland; Dave Gensimore, president of student government, USF Sarasota-Manatee and Bobby Koons, president of student government, USF St. Petersburg.

MIS Society
USF-St. Petersburg

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October 22  Speaker TBA
November  5  IT Job Fair * 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.
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October 17 - Fall 2001
More buildings, fewer cars on campus

Master plan envisions new student union near library

By Ed Ericsson
Contributing Writer

Every Day Jim Grant Gets a view of USF St. Petersburg’s future from his desk in Davis Hall. An architectural rendering of the campus master plan hangs in Grant’s office. It shows a student union in front of the Poynter Library, an expansion of the Florida Marine Research Institute building and the narrowing of Sixth Avenue South and Third Street South.

The Office of Facilities and Planning, which Grant, the campus architect, heads is putting the final brush strokes to the picture of what the campus should look like in 2005. The master plan, first approved in 1995, is being reviewed, and an update is due in Tallahassee. Grant is scrambling to finish the latest changes and put the plan before the legislature at the start of 2002.

The last changes to the drawing were made in 1998. That picture still shows the new Children’s Research Institute and the Florida Center for Teachers as proposed buildings.

Grant is responsible for planning and carrying out all construction and renovation on campus, and lately he’s been trying to accommodate a growth spurt.

“This plan will allow for growth and satisfy the dire need for space on the St. Pete campus,” he said.

With the recent addition of freshmen and sophomores, an increase in enrollment of 18 percent, and 31 new faculty added this year, that need appears more dire than ever.

Growth won’t be the only change in the campus’s appearance. The city, in cooperation with the campus, is reducing busy through streets from 60 feet to about 20 feet, expanding the sidewalks, planting trees, adding benches and decorative street lamps to make the campus more pedestrian friendly. Roadwork is under way down Third Street as part of the city’s Bayboro District Streetscape project.

The municipal plan dovetails with the campus plan in this area, Grant said.

In five years, he said, you should be able to walk a straight line from the library to Bayboro Books without crossing a street or parking lot. The "L" shaped road that runs in front of Davis Hall will be closed to all but pedestrian traffic from Sixth Avenue South to First Street South.

The large parking lot across from Davis Hall will make way for three new buildings. Two of those will house classrooms and faculty offices. Another will be constructed on the northeast corner of First Street and Sixth Avenue South to hold campus support services: physical plant, campus police, parking services, receiving and mail services and the Office of Facilities and Planning.

Grant said that a top priority is the purchase of the Bayboro Towers apartment building and the Fountain Inn assisted-living facility. This will make USF ownership "contiguous from border to border" on campus. The campus capital improvement plan, which goes along with the master plan, includes a request for $18 million from the legislature over the next 10 years to purchase the two properties.

The plan does not, at this point, include new dorms needed to house a growing population. According to Grant, the plan ultimately will include residential accommodations. "We don’t know how or where yet, but we will finish that study by the end of the year," he said.

Another priority is the funding of an educational area on the property of the St. Petersburg International Museum to be used by both USF and St. Petersburg College. It may be accomplished by renovating the existing building or by constructing a new building.

The dreams represented by the master plan have not made it to the design phase yet. That will take the approval from Tallahassee and money.

The map on Grant’s wall shows the existing buildings in solid black, the proposed structures in rosy and hopeful pink. Pending state approval, someday Grant hopes to walk along landscaped paths on a campus shaded by intertwining live oaks instead of following lines on a map with his finger.

Genshaft, Heller lobby Pinellas legislators

By Kristie Martinez
Contributing Writer

USF St. Petersburg hosted about 50 speakers Oct. 2 that addressed the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation at its local bill hearing.

Most used their allotted speech time of three minutes to appeal to Florida's senators and representatives for additional funding for their programs, but some had different requests. Mayor Leon Atkinson of Treasure Island asked that the city be given the designation of "The Sand Sculpture Capital of Florida." Steven Barefield proposed a Dignity For All Students Act, which would provide more specific rules to protect minorities in all schools.

The meeting's location prompted USF President Judy Genshaft and Campus Executive Officer William Heller to make their own petitions for funding. Both Genshaft and Heller stressed USF's status as a Research-1 institute deserving financial consideration equal to that of the University of Florida and Florida State University.

Heller’s speech to the delegation used the Sept. 11 national tragedy as a basis for improving education. "...Great universities like the University of South Florida have the capacity to help people understand and value diversity and to create new technologies and services that contribute to a higher quality of life for everyone on this planet," he said.

The student population at USF St. Petersburg is near 4,000 this fall and the faculty size has grown to 101. These increases coupled with the expansion of academic programs have created the pressing need for additional classrooms and office space. The temporary offices set up on the southeast corner of the campus will not suffice for long.

"Our growth has created a space crunch of major proportions," Heller said.

While renovating existing facilities and building new ones remains a priority, so is augmentation of support personnel. Heller said he also wants to continue to improve the campus’ relationship with St. Petersburg College with the development of information technology programs.

Lastly, additional funding is needed for accreditation and expansion of science programs. "We project that by 2005-2006, we will be in serious need for a science and technology building," Heller said.

Before hearing the university appeals, delegation chairman Sen. Jim Sebesta told Heller, "USF St. Petersburg is high on our minds."

Volunteer Projects
There are numerous community needs for volunteers and service-learners. A sample of the projects:

- Paws on Parade - A fundraiser for the SPCA. Walk your pet and collect donations.
  Saturday, Oct. 27.
- Sojourn Bear - Make a stuffed bear for a cancer patient. Sew or stuff.
- Coastal Clean up - Help clean Tierra Verde Beach on Saturday, Oct. 13.
- YouthLead - Be a mentor for a high school student leader. Monthly sessions.
- Suncoast Trailblazers - help with therapeutic horseback riding.

For more information on these or other projects, contact Barry McDowell, Bayboro 111, 553-1162.
Counseling at CAC helped the grieving

By Sharon Wilson, Contributing Writer

After seeing the affects the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks had on others, USF students realized the impact this tragedy has on their own lives.

Dr. Peter Genshaft, director of the Counseling and Career Center offered debriefing sessions to give students a chance to talk about the affects the terrorist acts had on their lives. The Division of Student Affairs coordinated the sessions and gave students an opportunity to gather and talk. Eight members of the professional staff split into teams of two to help grieving students.

Alicia Riggs, a USF student, said she felt "anger and disgust." Diane McKinstry, director of the Counseling and Career Center, said there are a variety of common reactions, Riggs not being unusual. Fearlessness of one's safety, depression, sadness and anger are all common reactions, she said.

Furthermore, McKinstry said, cognitive and physiological changes can accompany the aforementioned emotional stresses. Trouble concentrating is a common cognitive reaction, while fatigue and insomnia are common physical side effects.

Grieving is an individual process and an individual reaction, said McKinstry, Dr. Perry Kaly of the counseling center agreed. "Everyone handles [trauma] in different ways," he said. Kaly thinks students should respect others' grieving processes however different they are from their own.

People who have had traumatic losses or events in the past may respond more than others, said Kaly. It's important, he said, to be aware of any symptoms that have resulted from terrorism in New York and Washington D.C.

McKinstry thinks it is best to make a sound judgment based on what you observe. Some people, she said, need to know when to stop watching television and start talking to someone about what they've seen.

In a counseling center packet for the debriefing session was listed a group of healing strategies. One suggestion was to talk to people; it praised the value of sharing thoughts and feelings. Another suggestion was to make a journal in which to express personal feelings.

The packet also suggests that grief is not something to be fought. It suggests that one permit his/her self to accept the condition, not deny it. Relief from grieving can be found in many ways. Relief, it says, can come in the form of exercise. It reduces fatigue, insomnia, and nightmares.

Solutions to relieving stress can vary as much as its symptoms. Riggs found a different way to deal with her feelings than exercise. She decided to add the terrorists to her morning prayer.

There are no more planned formal meetings for terrorism crisis counseling, however, individuals can make appointments at the Career and Counseling Center for professional help.

It is important to find a healthy way to grieve, said the counselors. "This will be with us for a while," said McKinstry, "because we haven't buried the dead."

Al-Arian, from Page 1

Palestine, took part in the project. Al-Arian said Shallah helped with some translations and apes from that was never very vocal or politically active in Tampa. The Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1996 searched WISE under suspicion that it may have some extremist ties with militant groups in Israel.

The investigator who interviewed and conducted the case, William Smith, concluded in 1996 that: "The purpose and activities of WISE that have been established are entirely legitimate and that those known to be working at WISE performed duties that were totally consistent with the work of a scholarly research center."

This lengthy report was given in its entirety to USF's then President, Betty Castor.

In another ruling, Judge Kevin McHugh concluded in October 2000, "Although there were allegations made that the ICP and WISE were fronts for Palestinian political causes, there is no evidence before the Court that demonstrates that either organization was a front for the PFLP [Palestinian Islamic Jihad].

To the contrary, there is evidence in the record to support the conclusion that WISE was a reputable and scholarly research center."

Judge McHugh concluded by reporting that "there are no facially legitimate and bona fide reasons to conclude that [the Respondent] is a threat to national security.

Many students on the USF St. Petersburg and Tampa campuses still have a hard time feeling comfortable with the accusations that Al-Arian may have some distant or close ties to terrorists.

Some students still question a remark made by the professor in which he said, "Death to Israel." The professor later explained that this did not mean death to individual persons but rather death to oppression and death to apartheid.

It was this that seemed to draw Al-Arian's biggest opposition. Specifically, Genshaft said she was concerned that Al-Arian's opinions might be misconstrued as the opinions of USF. In an interview with the St. Petersburg Times, Genshaft said, "Dr. Al-Arian does not speak for the university...

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Jefferson Bagley, assistant to artist Alex Klahn, applies a casting resin to a metal whale to prevent water collection and rust. The piece is one of 20 metal animals adorning posts and lining the walkway from Baywalk to its parking garage. The art installation started the last week in September and is nearing completion.

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USF staffer holds wedding

USF is a supportive campus on which to work and be part of because of people like Suddy Tchirdere, Dan Rogers, and Dan Richards. My wedding and reception went off perfectly because of their efforts on a Saturday! I am forever grateful that USF has such an added benefit for its employees, beautiful waterfront property. Thank you.

Debbie Rice McFarlane

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Friday, Oct. 26
9:00 PM  Movie Night  Harborside
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Monday, Oct. 29
All Day  Spirit Day  Harborside
Noon  Cake Cutting  Harborside
Wear your Green and Gold and
join us in Kicking off Homecoming 2001

Tuesday, Oct. 30
8:00 PM  Masquerade Ball  Embassy Suites
in Tampa
*A bus will be available - leaving from the CAC at 7:00 PM

Wednesday, Oct. 31
11:30AM-1:00PM  Halloween Button Day  Davis Lobby
5:30-7:30PM  Have a Halloween Button made of you and your friends

Thursday, Nov. 1
11:00 AM-3:00 PM  Fun in the Sun Day  Harborside
Join us for food and fun and take a ride
on our very own Rocky the Mechanical Bull

Friday, Nov. 2
4:30 PM  Carnival  Tampa Campus
6:00 PM  Parade  Tampa
8:00 PM  Stampede  Sun Dome
Stampede features comedian D. L. Hughley and a laser light show
*Buses will be available leaving from the CAC at 5:00 PM & 7:15 PM
and leaving Tampa at 7:30 PM and following Stampede

Saturday, Nov. 3
5:30 PM  Tailgate Party  HCC, Tampa
5:30 PM  Spirit Patio  R. James Stadium
7:00 PM  Homecoming Game  R. James Stadium
*A bus will be available - leaving from the CAC at 5:00 PM

Tickets for the Masquerade Ball and Stampede
will be available Monday, Oct. 22 - Friday, Oct. 26
in Davis Lobby.

Tickets for the Football Game will be available
beginning Oct. 29 at the CAC Information Desk.

* Seats on buses require a $5 deposit per seat
that will be refunded when you arrive at the bus.

All events sponsored by Student Government
and Harborside Productions

If you have a disability or need to request an accommodation, please call
(727) 553-1162 St. Petersburg Campus

The Clothesline Project of Tampa Bay displayed a small portion of its message-intensive T-shirts outside of the CAC on Friday, Oct. 12, where, later in the day, a "Take Back the Night" rally was held. Each T-shirt was made by a victim or on the behalf of a victim who didn't survive and acknowledges a form of abuse, most against women,

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Join the sail club; learn to sail

By Nadine Beard
Contributing Writer

Bowline. Clove hitch. Rolling hitch. If the mid-semester grind has you feeling as tight as a nautical knot, a relaxing sail around Bayboro Harbor may be just what the captain orders to give some slack.

Sebastian Meyer, Bayboro Sailing Club secretary, said the mission statement set forth in the newly approved constitution and bylaws of the Bayboro Sailing Club is “to promote training and the recreational enjoyment of sailing activities for the purposes of sailing and camaraderie.”

Both of those missions are accomplished every Friday afternoon around 3:30 p.m. when the Bayboro Sailing Club provides excursions into the Tampa Bay. The trips are free of charge and dependent upon weather conditions. The number of passengers per craft is limited to the number of skippers available.

Membership is open to students with a valid student ID, or faculty, staff, alumni or member of the community who has an interest in sailing. Dues are $5 a semester and include participation in weekly social gatherings at 5:30 p.m. in Bayboro Cafe each Friday upon return from the afternoon sail.

Upcoming events for this year include an overnight sail to Deer Can Island and participation in the lighted boat parade in December, said Gerri Wilser, Bayboro Sailing Club treasurer. A recent kayaking trip to Weedon Island provided an opportunity for sailing club members to mesh with members of the Anthropology Club. “The emphasis of the sailing club is centered around enjoyment and coming together,” Wilser said.

“Salty dogs” join with novices to share nautical experiences and to learn from one another. The club’s mix of students, community members and seniors allows a variety of voices to be heard. Furthermore, all experience levels are welcome.

The Bayboro Sailing Club recently formed a Nautical Education Committee, that will start its slate of 21 sailing topics on Oct. 12 and continue with one topic a week until each has been covered. Members will have an opportunity to choose a topic that interests them, which they will then research and present to fellow members. The purpose of the weekly exchange is to increase safety and awareness while promoting a spirit of cooperation among members.

Some things, however, can’t be learned in a book and experience is the only teacher. Barbara Persson, a sail club member with 15 years experience at sea, said, “We have to handle living in your bathroom — whatever you like — but don’t go out to the refrigerator or watch TV in the other room.” Persson said. If you are not able to handle living in your bathroom for a week, you probably aren’t ready for the cramped quarters of living aboard a sailboat, she said.

Not everyone has the desire, nor the capability, to sail around the world, but with the assistance of the skippers of the Bayboro Sailing Club, even those with no qualifications have a chance to experience sailing in the Tampa Bay.

Sailor Griffin reaches nationals

Places second at College of Charleston single-handed regatta

By Larry Halstead
Contributing Writer

They weren’t featured on ESPN, SportsCenter, nor were there 30,000 fans watching, but what the women’s sailing team accomplished at the South Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association regatta at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina, on September 29 was a first for the University of South Florida.

Genoa Griffin, a USF junior, placed second overall in the two-person races while sailing FJ’s, a type of dinghy. Fourteen schools participated in that regatta.

After the Notre Dame regatta, the coed team moved into the top twenty teams in the nation with a nineteenth-place ranking. It is USF’s highest ever ranking, according to Sailing World Magazine. Harvard University holds the number one spot for the second month in a row. Tufts University is second, followed by Georgetown University.

The sailing team is governed by the NJCAA, although no scholarships are available for the athletes. Travel expenses are paid for by the university from the athletic fund.

Coming up for the USF team is the Sloop Championships at College of Charleston on October 20-21 and the SAISA Fall Dingshy Regatta on October 27-28, also at College of Charleston.

USF Sailing Team Schedule 2001-02

October 19-21
Men’s and Women’s Single-handed North American Championship @ Kingston, Canada

October 20-21
SAISA Sloops @ College of Charleston

October 27-28
SAISA Fall Dingshy @ College of Charleston

November 3-4
ICSA Sloop Championship @ College of Charleston

November 10-11
ACCs @ College of Charleston

Womens ACCs @ U.S. Naval Academy

Freshman ACCs @ Brown

November 17-18
SAISA/MAISA @ College of Charleston

November 23-25
Timme Angsten @ Chicago Yacht Club

January 5-6, 2002
Mendelblatt @ University of South Florida

January 19-20
Harris Kemper @ Texas A&M University-Galveston