Crow's Nest : 2001 : 11 : 28

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.
Students elect new SG officers

Miniscule vote totals bring new officer slate

By Larry Halstead
Contributing Writer

With only 99 ballots cast out of a student body of more than 4,000, the USF St. Petersburg Student Government held its election on Nov. 13 to 15 that elected some new and some incumbent officers to serve in spring 2002.

Reelected to office were Bobby Koonce, president, and Cassandra Hawkins, vice president. Newly elected members are Steve White, treasurer, and Sue Sietsma, secretary. The new term starts Jan. 1 and runs through April 30.

Only the office of treasurer was contested, as White bested Beverly Appleby, 67-31. Each of the unopposed officers needed a minimum of 50 votes to be approved; however, they all received more than 90 votes. Current treasurer, Carlos Gomez, chose not to seek re-election.

Koonce, a senior, was reelected to a second term as president. His duties include presiding over all student government meetings, appointing committee chairpersons, assuring compliance with the constitution and by-laws and compiling the agenda for meetings.

Hawkins, a junior, takes over as vice president, after one semester as secretary. One of her duties is to chair the Clubs and Organizations Council.

Sietsma, a freshman, was appointed as vice president in November for the remainder of the fall semester, but successfully ran for secretary.

Last spring more than 150 ballots were cast. During that election, Phyllis Lenahan, chairwoman of the election committee, worked hard to boost the vote totals by speaking to passing students and attempting to convince them to vote, said Hawkins.

This campaign was subdued, Hawkins said. Not every office is filled during the elections. Many of the college representative positions are filled by appointment after the election, which will be the case this semester.

Having representatives is integral in building future officers. Usually the candidates for officer positions come from the ranks of the representatives, Hawkins said.

Student government was established to represent the interests of the student body, including coordinating activities through allocations and expenditures of activities and service fee funds, with the ability to audit such funds.
OPINION

Bill of Rights faces test from recent actions of government

By Larry Halstead

These are strange times.

Until Sept. 11, the idea of a commercial jetliner flying into a national icon such as the World Trade Center would have been a plot for Hollywood, not a horrific reality. Now, nearly three months later, we are in the midst of Gen X's war, a loosely scripted conflict in the Middle East with Americans dropping thousands of tons of ordinance via B-52s and the opposition retaliating on horseback with rifles and rocks.

The war was declared against a concept, terrorism, rather than an opponent, yet the conflict is ravaging a poor country already in rubble from years of fighting the Russians.

We have as president a man who received fewer votes than his counterpart, yet now holds a positive approval rating higher than any president since polls began.

Our attorney general, a deeply religious man who swore that his personal convictions make every decision without government make every decision without trust in the sanctuary of our relationship.

Do we still have a government? Are we even in a democracy? We have as president a man who said the Constitution is not an excuse to seize power from his constituents, passing laws giving police more power and citizens fewer protections from police and state.

This war is strange. So far, our involvement has been dropping bombs and letting others die to advance the war. Just now we are inserting our own ground troops to fight. The public opinion polls give such high approval to President Bush that we are now seeing an erosion of our rights in the areas of search, seizure, and assumption of guilt. Ask the average American if he agrees with government decisions to increase security and he will probably say they are needed in these times.

But how will these new intrusive laws impact us after the war? It is not government's nature to lessen control. What will happen to the thousands currently detained for security reasons? What if the detainee suddenly is a cousin who perhaps married someone from the Middle East? What if the government wiretaps is on your phone? What if you get stopped for a DUI and the police want to listen to your conversation with your attorney to possibly use the information against you in court? What if your skin is brown or your name is Muhammad?

It is a slippery slope we are embarking on, giving government blanket permission to tap our phones, arrest our citizens without evidence and search our homes and property without warrants. These are strange times we are in.

Larry Halstead can be reached at crownesteditor@yahoo.com

Letters to the Editor

Campus safety and airport proximity concerns student government

As student leaders and officers of student government at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, we feel it is prudent and wise to consider the "What if..." questions posed by community leaders about the future of Albert Whitted Airport.

Foremost among our concerns is campus safety. Common student remarks indicate inquiring when they are going to put runway lights on our classroom buildings. Although students may joke about this, there is great concern among our student community that the airport could cease. These are not empty threats; they are a daily hindrance to life.

Besides posing a threat to campus safety, the air-travel situation over our buildings limits campus expansion. The proximity of Albert Whitted Airport to our campus does not allow for expansion because, first, we have strict regulations that severely limit the height of our buildings, and, second, we are unable to expand to the east because of airport property. Our alternative would be for Albert Whitted Airport to only use the north-south runway, then the campus would not be in nearly as much danger, and we could conceivably expand upward.

Another concern is the inability to conduct campus business without the interference of air-traffic noise. Classroom instruction is disrupted on a regular basis. The traffic does not affect only one or two classes, but the majority of classes held in Bayboro, Coquina and Davis halls. In addition to the interference with class instruction, every time an airplane or jet passes overhead, all conversation ceases. These are not just minor interruptions; they are a daily hindrance to campus life.

We realize these are difficult questions and concerns to answer; however, we feel they are imperative to the continued success of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. All we are asking for is the opportunity for discussion on these and other topics involving the future of Albert Whitted Airport.

Bobby Kooney, president
Cassandra Hawkins, secretary
Student Government
USF St. Petersburg

USFSP campus honor code is considered

Members of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg community have begun a brainstorming process into the possibility of USF St. Petersburg adopting a campus honor code.

A campus honor code could entail many things that revolve around student honesty. Vice President of Student Affairs Stephen Rich, a leading figure in the honor code brainstorming, has suggested honor code elements such as unproctored exams and the expectation that all students act as wards of integrity.

In other words, students operating under an honor code will be trusted to take an exam without a professor or proctor to ensure they don't cheat. Students, however, under the honor code, will be expected to report anyone who cheats. As Rich described, a campus honor code can be much more than trust in testing. Honor codes are designed to create an atmosphere that makes ethical decision making in all aspects of student life paramount. It's not unusual for honor code campuses to be strewn with unlocked bicycles, idle laptops and unlocked dormitories.

A potential snag, however, is that many honor code schools are private. Private colleges are, perhaps, more likely to minimize outside threats. Public schools are open, allowing anyone to visit. Private schools' visitors are generally monitored more closely, allowing them to thwart potential dangers before they become problems. Regardless of the outside dangers, students need to express their thoughts on the possibilities.

Want to be heard? Give us your thoughts. We will publish the best letters.
Visa fears ground Russian student

By Nadine Beard
Contributing Writer

Natalya Chernyagina had already begun making mental preparations to pack her bags and return to her native Moscow, but a timely opportunity allowed her to remain a student at USF St. Petersburg.

She has not seen her father for six years. Her mother last visited near Christmas two years ago. She has traveled to her home country only once since coming to the United States to attend the christening of her nephew, who is also her godson.

Fearing a trip to Moscow may result in a struggle to retain her visa due to the nation's failing economy, Chernyagina said she does not foresee a return to her homeland anytime soon.

Her parents worry about her safety and telephone more frequently in the aftermath of the recent anthrax deaths. Communication via e-mail is rare, though. The Internet is not as readily available in Russia as it is in the United States, primarily because the country's cultural values are centered on family and friends.

Chernyagina said the Russian people equate computers with work, which they do not feel should be part of the home life. Back in Moscow, Chernyagina's mother, an accountant, worked eight months without pay while waiting for the nation's failing economy to improve. She hoped the company would pull out of its financial tailspin, but finally the firm closed its doors.

With only her father's paycheck to support the family, money for tuition became scarce.

But recently, the Tampa Bay Women in International Trade awarded Chernyagina its inaugural Laura Bedingfield Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship, open to men and women, honors the memory of Laura Bedingfield, a member of the Tampa Bay Women in International Trade and a single mother who died, leaving behind a young daughter.

Chernyagina described winning the scholarship as a total surprise. Last spring while discussing options with her adviser, Robert Thompson, she learned about the scholarship with little time left to apply.

With only days to gather the required materials: an official transcript, letters of recommendation and a proposal outlining how funds would be used, Chernyagina scrambled to meet the rapidly approaching deadline. Professor Carol Caggill, USF chair of the scholarship committee, said Chernyagina was the only applicant to meet the April 15 deadline within the short turnaround period.

Chernyagina's determination paid off.

"Without the scholarship I wouldn't have been able to go to school this fall," she said.

Even though she lives with a host family and doesn't pay rent, lack of monetary support from home made paying tuition for her degree in marketing, with three minors (international business, finance and economics), increasingly difficult.

International students do not have the same opportunities for financial aid afforded to U.S. residents when attending U.S. schools. Students who are U.S. citizens submit a federal application for student aid each year and many are successful in obtaining grants and loans to aid them in paying tuition and expenses. This is not an option for international students.

Chernyagina came to St. Petersburg as a high school foreign exchange student in the Youth for Understanding program and has lived with the same host family since her arrival. Wanting to improve her Russian, Chernyagina has traveled to Russia as it is in the State Youth for Understanding program and has lived with the same host family since her arrival. Wanting to improve her Russian, Chernyagina has traveled to Russia as it is in the State Youth for Understanding program and has lived with the same host family since her arrival.

Please see NATAALYA, 7

Online databases help students job search

Electronic resources are a good first step

By Stephen Fairchild
Contributing Writer

Students researching potential employment may want to search USF's online-library sources first.

The library has databases, online periodicals and other electronic resources for job-seekers researching companies or industries, said Monica Metz-Wiseman, the electronic resources coordinator for USF libraries.

Students have free Internet access from any location to USF's subscription databases. To access the databases from outside campus, go to the USF homepage, and follow the library link to the Virtual Library. There is a set-up process for the first-time user [but it only takes] about five or ten minutes," Metz-Wiseman said.

The databases for company research are ReferenceUSA, which provides basic information on 12 million businesses, and ABI/Inform Global, which provides over 26,000 companies in more than 90 countries. ReferenceUSA is mainly a directory, while ABI/Inform has more information on the company, such as business location and number of employees, said Tina Neville, the head of reference at USF St. Petersburg's library.

Business students tend to be aware of using the library databases as a tool for researching employment prospects, Neville said. But both Neville and Metz-Wiseman would like to see more students take advantage of the databases.

With an annual USF-wide budget for electronic resources at close to $1 million, library resources are plentiful. "There are so many things available to our user-community," Metz-Wiseman said.

"For those entering the corporate world, don't just think about directory information," for instance. ABI/Inform Global is a "good source for articles about companies," Metz-Wiseman said.

Other useful sources for company and industry information are Investext Plus, Business and Company Resource Center, Standard and Poor's Net Advantage and Business and Industry Database.

Full-text articles about prospective employers are available from Wall Street Journal Online and Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe provides access to more than one billion articles and reports, although only some are relevant to finding employment.

How would a student use an electronic search to develop a short list of potential employers? A brief look for a large manufacturing company in mid-Pinellas County might develop as follows:

First stop is ReferenceUSA. A search for manufacturing companies with more than 1000 employees with headquarters located in Clearwater turns up two companies: Maxxim Medical Co. and Tech Data Corp.

The Tech Data listing includes the basics, such as address and phone number. Also listed is its Fortune 1000 rank—95th credit rating—excellent, and a list of corporate officers with job titles.

Next stop is ABI/Inform Global. Using the "browse list" feature for companies, the Tech Data entry on 1000 articles. A Sept. 15 St. Petersburg Times article, for example, describes Tech Data's efforts to fulfill an unexpectedly large increase in computer equipment orders after the Sept. 11 attack.

Finally, a search for Tech Data on Investext Plus yields 310 hits. An Oct. 17 stock analysis anticipates strong performance in this area.

Tech Data makes the short list. And although this is a simplification, it demonstrates potential benefits of using the library databases as employment-research tools.

The electronic resources are not just for corporate job seekers, either. Science's Next Wave is a weekly online publication with information on science careers, salaries and online job links. Many science students are not aware of this source, said Metz-Wiseman.

November 28 - Fall 2001
Afghan war spurs campus debates

Faculty members explain dilemma of fighting war and keeping coalitions

By Aya Batrawy
Contributing Writer

Lately on college campuses across the globe and in the United States, professors and students have been holding debate and dialogue about the war in Afghanistan. USF is no different.

Several of USF faculty have participated in university teach-ins. Two were held this semester at USF St. Petersburg and both attracted large, engaged crowds of students, faculty, staff and members of the community.

Two faculty members, Thomas Smith and Daanish Mustafa, are learned in the area of Islam and the Middle East. Smith, who studied in Turkey for several years, became familiar with many facets of Islam. Mustafa, a native of Pakistan, has obvious local experience as a resident in addition to his teaching expertise in geography.

"This war is more typical than we are willing to say," said Smith. "Thus far we are using extremely blunt means to fight a shadowy terrorist network. Our massive aerial bombardment is not different from the Gulf War or the Kosovo War," added Smith, assistant professor of international relations.

Professor Daanish Mustafa of the geography department proposed that "Americans don't know what kind of war this is. The only way for the U.S. to win is through Afghan civilian support. The only way for the U.S. to win is through Afghan civilian support."

The Pakistanis' concerns with daily necessities may keep their displays of anger to a minimum, Mustafa said. "Most common people [those of the lower and middle class in Pakistan] are concerned with the issue of bread and butter. Yet they also don't like the idea of bombing Afghanistan because they don't trust the United States due to its policies in Pakistan and the Middle East. But most Pakistanis are not willing to come out in the streets about it." As citizens of the United States, Smith suggests, "We have a responsibility to be smart about this war. We can be patriotic and support our government and still be skeptical. Americans must think independently," he said.

The economy in Pakistan, another potentially inflammatory issue for Pakistan, is certainly affected by the war. Some rumors say that car rental service and biochemical makers have actually prospered from the war. Most Pakistani students, faculty, staff and members of the community. This has infuriated Israel. Money is the ultimate incentive to join the coalition. An example is Pakistan, which is no different.

"Pakistan alone has lost over 2.5 billion dollars in exports which is a huge number for a small economy." For both America's economy and Pakistan's, the war is more typical than we are willing to say, Smith said. As for the future relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan, Mustafa confirmed, "Unlike other nations in Europe and around the world, Pakistanis have accepted refugees in the past but are not anymore. They [Pakistan] should continue their previous policy because they should have compassion for the Afghans. We cannot behave like the Europeans and the Americans by closing our borders when it comes to the refugees. We are different people," he said.

Bayboro Fiction Contest

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Any University of South Florida student who is registered full or part time.

ENTRIES: One previously unpublished short story of 2000 words or less. Entries should be typed double-spaced on one side only of 8 X 11 inch paper.

Do not include your name on the manuscript pages. Instead, attach a cover sheet with your name, address, phone number, campus, your major and the title of your story. Only the title of your story and page number should appear on each page. Retain a copy as mailed copies will not be returned.

DEADLINE: January 10, 2002

Submit your entry to:

Fiction Contest c/o Niela Ellison
638 15th Avenue Northeast
St. Petersburg, Florida 33704

Questions? Call Niela: (727) 823-4877

First Prize $250 Second Prize $100 Third Prize $100

November 28 - Fall 2001
Professor leads way to animal kingdom

By Ed Ericsson
Contributing Writer

Students following squirrels around campus or staring intently at lizards might not have flipped—they might be in Sarah Partan's psychology class.

Partan is one of the new faculty this fall at USF St. Petersburg. Partan has challenged the students in her classes of comparative psychology and perception to come up with questions that get them involved with research. To do so they need to observe the behavior of animals around them.

"They've been great. They've responded really well," Partan said. "I've been pleased with the students in St. Pete."

The comparative psychology class she is teaching is similar to one she taught at New College because she involved her students in research. They loved her.

Partan draws on her personal experiences with animal research to inspire her students. At an undergraduate at Wesleyan University she took a year off to study prairie dogs in South Dakota, elk in Canada and wolves in Minnesota.

"The mating call of the male elk is amazing. It sounds like a cross between a French horn and a flute," Partan said.

After graduation, the native Bostonian traveled to Honolulu where she was the head dolphin trainer at the University of Hawai'i's Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Laboratory.

She got her master's and doctorate studying Rhesus monkeys at the University of California at Davis. Partan did postdoctoral work on elephant communication at Disney's Animal Kingdom in Orlando.

Partan's keen interest in animals began in high school when her biology teacher took the class on a weekend field trip to an island off the New Hampshire coast to observe the gulls. It was there that Sarah had a revelation. "Wow, you can actually get paid to watch animals. This is astounding."

Partan delivers this excitement for discovery and enthusiasm for science to her pupils.

"Dr. Partan is a good teacher. She obviously enjoys and is interested in what she is teaching. Her assignments are interesting," said Beth McCormick, a student in Partan's perception class.

"She is open to ideas and very approachable if you need assistance. Her assignments are reasonable. I am finishing up a paper on one of Salvador Dalí's paintings. The assignment was to relate a Dalí painting to what we are learning about perception," she said.

Amanda Urslal, who has Partan for two classes this semester, said, "I find her very interesting and her classes informative and user friendly. While I adore all of the 'psych' professors at our campus, it's nice to have new blood around. I think she brings new life to our department."

Partan is seeking research opportunities in the Tampa Bay region while she settles into life in St Petersburg. "Living in St. Pete is lovely. It's such an easy place to live," Partan said.

Partan just bought a bicycle and is looking forward to riding to campus and walking her dog, Tundra, in the park. She is also looking forward to finding her way around.

"The events of the past few weeks (Sept. 11) threw everyone for a loop. 'Get back in your routine' is the best advice to give people. But I didn't have one since I'd just moved here and it's hard to get back to something you didn't have," Partan said.

Driving on 'empty'? Good luck

By Matti Leiber
Contributing Writer

USF St. Petersburg is a commuter school. There are no dorms. Most students drive to the campus.

So one would think there would be a handful of gas stations near the school to accommodate the staff and students, right?

Wrong.

Drive around the vicinity of the school and not a gas station will one find. According to John Hixenbaugh, a St. Petersburg zoning official, the area surrounding the school is not zoned for a gas station.

The school is in a Central Business District, which encompasses the area between Fifth Avenue North to Fifth Avenue South and from Tampa Bay to 15th Street.

"The central business district zones are specifically designed to encourage urban form and uses and are designed to preclude uses that are oriented to the automobile," said Hixenbaugh.

What does the zoning law mean to students? Sheryl Larson, a mass communications student, recalled one night where she nearly ran out of gas. "I was coming from work and running late. I figured, I'd just stop for gas after class. I'm driving around and looking for a gas station and couldn't find one. I had to get on Interstate 275 on 'E' and look for a gas station."

Doug White, a graduate student who works at the Poynter Institute, shared Larson's frustration. While he said his drive home to North Tampa is often delayed because there aren't any gas stations close by. "There's nothing really on the way. I end up driving down to Fourth Street North, which takes me longer to get home."

To assist stranded motorists, the university police will provide a gas can in exchange for a student ID, said Teri Johnson, parking service's office manager. "We can also call AAA for you if you need to. Although the campus doesn't offer specific maps showing nearby stations, Johnson's office has city maps with guides to the downtown area.

Hixenbaugh said that the zoning districts south of Fifth Avenue South are able to carry service stations, but land near the USF campus is expensive and in high demand from the hospitals and other businesses.

For students who travel far to reach the school, installing a gas station might seem like a simple step. Grant Boxleitner, a mass communications graduate student, wondered why this hasn't already been done. "You'd think some entrepreneur would want to put one up considering all the students who commute."

Changing the zoning ordinance to permit service stations closer to the USF campus is a process that requires an applicant to pay a filing fee of $2,000. This probably won't happen, Hixenbaugh said. It is doubtful there would be any proposals to change the ordinance, because the cost of the land would make the project infeasible, Hixenbaugh said. "There would not be support for such a change amongst the city staff or the city council."

Volunteer Projects

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

- Sojourn Bear - Make a stuffed bear for a cancer patient. Sew or stuff.
- YouthLead - Be a mentor for a high school student leader. Monthly sessions.
- Caravan Stagebarge Theatre Company - Suncoast Trailblazers - help with therapeutic horseback riding.
- Marine Mammal Laboratory.

For more information on these or other projects, contact Barry McDowell, Bayboro 111, 553-1162.
By Erin Neuhaus
Contributing Writer

Most people think of buoys as nothing more than floating channel markers, but in reality, these humble devices can be so much more.

Scientists at USF's College of Marine Science developed a high-tech real-time ocean monitoring system called the Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System. It is both a state-of-the-art scientific data-gathering device and a valuable tool for anyone on the water.

According to Robert Weisberg, professor of Physical Oceanography at the College of Marine Science, the main purpose for the program is to measure and predict how the coastal ocean responds to its principle forcing functions (tidal forces, winds, surface heating and cooling, fresh water and the adjacent deep ocean).

Currently, the program uses 11 buoys to gather data and is linked with other agencies' buoys. The sites gather information about Florida's west coast from Shell Point near Tallahassee all the way down to the Keys. USF and other government agencies are planning six more stations.

USF recently launched a new buoy just off the shore in front of the Knight Oceanographic Institute. This makes studying the Bay's waters even easier for USF's College of Marine Science students, who can sample water literally from their own backyard.

The Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System works with the National Weather Service, United States Geological Survey and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association just to name a few.

Recently, the Office of Naval Research provided a grant for two more units off the coast of Sarasota. The program also has plans to place buoys in the Yucatan Channel, in conjunction with the Mexican and Cuban governments.

The Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System is part of a larger network. Similar programs exist not only around the country, but also around the world. Weisberg said, "There exists a movement within the scientific community for a global ocean observing system and for regional emphases within such a global network."

The main justification for this network is that ocean currents and atmosphere winds are nature's way of distributing internal energy around the globe. This is what determines climate. At first glance, the buoys that gather vital ocean data do not look impressive. Each unit consists of a triangular metal tower housed on top of a bright canary-colored base. But housed in the tall metal structures are highly sensitive scientific instruments.

Special measuring instruments, or arrays, gather information about temperature, wind speed, salinity and tides. The buoys transmit the readings to satellites, which then send the data back to Earth. The data is finally uploaded to a Web site where scientists, boaters, fishermen or surfers can find helpful information about water conditions before heading out.

"The most important aspect of the program is that provides data every person can use," said program director Cliff Merz. It is especially useful for emergency management personnel, who can chart water levels, predict storm surges and plan evacuation routes during hurricanes and tropical storms.

Weisberg also explained why people should be aware of a program like the Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System. "Applications with immediate societal relevance include... guidance for search and rescue operations, tracking of hazardous spills, aids to navigation and improved marine weather forecasting by assimilation of real data into forecast models," he said.

Anyone can access the data from the Web site the College of Marine Science maintains for the program at http://comps.marine.usf.edu. The Web site data is updated every hour. Coastal units gather data every six minutes and buoys send reports to the satellites every 15 to 20 minutes.

"We want people to use the system to make knowledgeable decisions," said Merz. "One of our main goals is to get the data out to the public." This goal is made easier by the program's Web site by simply clicking on a dot on the map and up comes the site information. Each site has various readings and instruments gathered from the buoys.
world courts are the long-term solution to terrorism and stable world peace, Sykes added.

A veteran of the Army and Air Force, Sykes said, "serving as a soldier is not the answer to world peace." The history of America reveals injustice of civil liberties and economic manipulations, Doyle said. Genocide of the native Indian, enslavement of Africans, bombing of Vietnam, East Timor and Iraq with sanctions against Iraq, the embargo against Cuba and other oppressive acts by the United States around the world accelerates the erosion of civil liberties, Doyle said.

In countries where peace settlements have involved economic packages, global corporations have been catered to and they in turn support the States and economic manipulations, Doyle said. Poor people are not paid to think but about finances, economics and big business, Reed said.

Charles Greg, a veteran who lives in St. Peters burg, observed the rally while sitting on a curb. "We spent billions of dollars on destruction in other countries, but at home our people have problems," he said. Reed is tired of political rhetoric in the media, he said.

About 75 residents from Manatee, Hillsborough and Pinellas counties represented multiple races, ages, cultures, economic backgrounds and religions who called for an end to violence. About 60 marched in the first hour from 11th Avenue South and Ninth Street to Central Avenue and city hall. While chanting for justice now, they carried various signs including "No more Killing in my Name" and "Defend Civil Liberties."

**Sta ffers Needed**

The Crow's Nest is looking for staff for next semester. Among the positions open are Senior Editor, Staff Writer and Photography Editor. If you are considering a career in journalism, this is the place to start. Most newspapers require college paper experience, so here is your chance to learn and contribute.

Call Aaron Quinn at 553-3113 for more details.

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**NATALYA, from 3**

English-speaking skills, Chernyagina entered the program on the advice of a friend who returned to Moscow after participating in the program in Nevada.

Entering the United States after a six-month, intensive English language course, Chernyagina said she knew only a few hundred words in English. Like most people taking language courses who don't have an opportunity to use it, she found it hard to connect the words.

Chemyagina stayed in the area, her English improved and she completed her associate degree at St. Petersburg Junior College, now St. Petersburg College. Conditions placed on her visa permitted her to work only one year after completing her first degree. During that year, she worked full-time as an administrative assistant for Florida Power. She also earned money by working part-time at a modeling school, promoting various shampoo and liquor products, cleaning houses and babysitting.

Now, Chernyagina works at the Campus Activity Center. Her student visa prevents her from working anywhere other than the university. Hoping for an internship next semester that will lead to a permanent position upon completion of her bacher’s degree, scheduled for May 2002, Chernyagina said she would like to remain in the United States after graduating.

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War protesters rally at city hall

By Cindy Steinmann
Contributing Writer

Twelve self-claimed patriots led a protest rally at St. Petersburg's City Hall on Nov. 17, 2001, after a demonstration march against civil liberty injustices and war.

Speeches at the rally ranged from eloquent to passionate in protest of all acts of terrorism, vengeance, hatred and injustice.

The United States has won the superiority race as a super power but it has not shown superiority of morals, compassion, justice and ethics, Rev. Manuel Sykes, Baptist minister said.

America's history is peppered with a double standard, one for whites and one for minorities, Air Force veteran Tim Doyle said. Many political leaders and terrorists from around the world have "graduated from the American school of assassins and have a training manual on techniques of torturing prisoners," said Green party attorney Mark Kamlieter of Tampa.

A call for continued marches of a People's Movement to stop the war at home and abroad came from Coalition for Peace and Social Justice Chairman Omali Yeshitela. "There is a dirty war in our own country" that started with injustices against the American Indians and continues today against minorities and the poor, Yeshitela said. "What is different about Sept. 11 is it happened to white people," Yeshitela said.

The American government is not going to solve injustices, Yeshitela said. President George Bush had a war cabinet before the Sept. 11 bombings, Yeshitela said. There will be no peace or security in America as long as it is at the expense of someone else, he said.

"For me the American flag stands for a history of genocide," Yeshitela said. The American government needs to get rid of its warmongering ways, get rid of the war cabinet and create a peace cabinet, he added.

Political and economic leaders must gather in tolerance and peace at a global table or Americans won't be able to enjoy their freedoms much longer, Sykes said. International laws and justice through the

Please see CIVIL Rights, 7

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Schedule 2001-02

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Open Monday thru Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Bayboro Café is located in the Coquina Building

897-0190

Members of the Uhuru Movement demonstrate outside the Campus Activities Center on Jan. 12, 2001, when Gov. Jeb Bush attended a fundraiser on campus for mayoral candidate Rick Baker. Omali Yeshitela, former Uhuru president, has been involved in civil rights activities since the 1960s. In 1966, Yeshitela tore down a mural he considered racially hostile, that hung in City Hall and later served several years in prison for the crime.