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**Vice President Bill Heller**  
**USF St. Petersburg**

**cordially invites you to attend a reception honoring the**

**Pinellas County Legislative Delegation**

**Tuesday, November 14**  
8:30 a.m.

**Campus Activities Center**  
2nd Street and 6th Avenue South  

**USF University of South Florida**  
St. Petersburg

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**Think you’re going to graduate in December? Make sure you check out this list of to-do’s**

By AARON QUINN  
Of the Crow’s Nest

If you’re thinking about graduating at the end of the semester, there are a few things that you should know.

The ceremony will be held at the Mahaffey Theater at Bayfront Center on Dec. 18. To register to “walk” in the ceremony, a registration postcard must be completed. The card has been, or will be, sent to everyone who submitted a graduation application. Deadline to submit the card is Nov. 20.

Five guest tickets will be available for each graduate. Tickets can be retrieved from the Campus Activities Center starting Nov. 27. Tickets will be held until Dec. 3.

Between Dec. 5 and Dec. 13, graduates can pick up a cap and gown at the campus bookstore. Prices are as follows:

- Undergraduate - $25
- Masters - $50
- Doctorate - $64

Some 226 USF-St. Petersburg students are expected to graduate next month, but only a fraction are expected to attend the ceremony. “I’d say there will be 120 students based on typical turnouts,” said Dr. Stephen Ritch, director of student affairs. “We’d like to have more, though.”

The college of business is expected to provide 40 percent of the graduates, while the colleges of education and arts and sciences will provide 30 percent each, said Ritch.

Heller to host Thanksgiving celebration on Nov. 21

St. Petersburg campus dean and CEO Bill Heller will host his annual Thanksgiving luncheon on Nov. 21. The meal is to honor all faculty and staff, including Marine Science, Children’s Research Center, USF-YWCA Child Development Center, student workers, Student Government Association, and the Campus Advisory Board.

Call “it’s turkey and all of the trimmings,” said Heller. There is no charge to attend; however, Heller does ask that everyone bring a canned good for donation to a nearby Free Clinic to “help those less fortunate than ourselves.”

The luncheon will be held in the Campus Activities Center from noon to 1:30 p.m.
Endorsements may mark tilt in leantings

By M.E. BAKER
Editor

University Wire, to which the "Crow's Nest" is a subscriber, has tracked how many college newspapers across the nation felt about the presidential race and tallied which presidential candidates received staff editorial endorsements.

The results, published the Monday before election day, cast a question mark over the nature of student political thought at the dawn of the 21st century. College students have traditionally been considered, at least by their parents, to be among the dreamers. Exposed by exposure to political and social philosophies not usually taught in high school, students surprise no one when they begin espousing concepts of what could be and should be.

Letters

Professors not truthful on accreditation concerns

Below is a copy of an e-mail I received from the college accreditation board. I think the truth should be told to the students at the USF-St. Pete campus.

They need to know that the school would not, I repeat would not lose accreditation if it was split and made its own separate school.

Some of the professors and staff have lied long enough to the students. We students deserve to know the truth and prof­fessors who are only looking out for their own interests, should keep quiet and let the truth be told.

The faculty has already screwed the students with the new "pluses and minus­es" system of grades. If they wanted to change the system they should have only done this for incoming freshmen. Those of us already on the books should have been grandfathered in as far as grades are concerned.

But this is just another instance of faculty playing with student's lives. They did not even come up with a very good plan at that. You can get a "B," "C" or "D" plus or minus but, you can only get an "A" minus. What happened to the "A" plus?

Why did they feel there was such a great need to change when they always tell stu­tents "grades are not important." What happened to the idea of a story within a limited line of bold letters. Consequently, over the ages an unwritten list of certain short terse words has been compiled and passed down from one generation to the next. "Verm," for instance, is sometimes used when "vice president" just won't fit in the headline. "Pete" means "celebrate.

So it is with "solon." This word refers to the Athenian statesman Solon, who lived about 600 BC. According to the Web site Encyclopedia.com, Solon "instituted sweeping economic and social reforms, and made important constitutional changes. Although bitterly opposed at first, Solon's reforms became the basis of the Athenian state."

With the same self-assured authority with which they have aggregated reporters for decades, copy editors ushered Solon into the newspaper lexicon. Lowercasing the name to make it generic, headlines writers used the word as shorthand for statesman or legislator. The word was thus used when I entered the newspaper biz in 1973 and the list handed down to me.

This latest confusion has made me think that it might be time to revamp my vocab­ulary. Some of those pointing were people in the journalism trade, people whom I thought would be hip to this bit of newspaper jargon. I don't use "solon" a lot, but it's a great five-letter word to use when an eight- or 10-letter one won't work. However, maybe it's time to write 30 to solon. Oops, sorry! "30" is newspaper lingo for "the end."--M.E. Baker

Crow's Nest

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Opinion

In the 1960's (this writer's frame of reference), college campuses were fertile ground for liberal thought. Many of the leaders of the politically strident students for a Democratic Society and the violent Weathermen were extreme products of halls of learning. The tide of opposition of the Vietnam War began in college class­rooms and dorm rooms before sweeping across the nation to change the collective minds of an entire populace.

All of this is history book material for most college students today. Yet even in the late '90s, grumblings could be regularly heard about the state of the American two-party political system.

Eight years ago, Ross Perot talked about the impor­tance of reducing the national debt, a topic at that time normally confined to think tank consultants on Sunday morning talk shows. Yet when Perot grabbed more than 15 percent of the popular vote, suddenly the national debt was a major topic of interest for every politician from the President down. Today, both Democrats and Republicans take credit for not just reducing the debt, but for creating a massive tax surplus.

The eccentric Perot might have been considered a momentary blip on the national political radar had it not been for a bunch of staid Minnesotans. When they elected Jesse Ventura to be governor of their state, people

'So long' to 'solon?'

A number of people have come to the 'Crow's Nest' office over the past two weeks, many of them carrying the latest issue. They lay the paper down in front of me and point to the top of the front page. "What does this mean?" they ask.

"You mean the 'Crow's Nest' banner printed in orange?" I answer blankly. "That's to mark Halloween."

"No," they say, pointing stiffly a little farther down. "This word."

The word they all point to is "solon," as in the banner headline "400 grill solon on USF split plan."

Headline writers like me often must put together a string of words that convey the idea of a story within a limited line of bold letters. Consequently, over the ages an unwritten list of certain short terse words has been compiled and passed down from one generation of copy editors to the next. "Verm," for instance, is sometimes used when "vice president" just won't fit in the headline. "Pete" means "celebrate."

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"So long' to 'solon?"
Flu vaccine shortage hikes health worries

By MICHAEL JOHNSON
Contribution Writer

Supply of the vaccine for this year’s flu season has been delayed, causing concern among the public and health professionals that help may come too late.

The delay comes as a result of vaccine manufacturers having difficulty growing one of the flu strains needed for this season’s vaccine. This year, 75.3 million doses will be available, according to the Food and Drug Administration, which regulates the manufacturing of the vaccines.

During last year’s flu season, 80 to 85 million doses were available, but only 74 million were used.

The vaccination delay is a valid worry for the public.

Flu is a major cause of illness and death in the U.S. It is responsible for approximately 110,000 hospitalizations and 20,000 deaths each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The public is not alone in its uncertainty of what will happen during this flu season.

Todd Williams, a physicians assistant at Atona Medical Center in Largo, said that practitioners are as unclear as the patients on when the vaccination will be distributed and how much.

“We have been given no official word on when we will receive the vaccination or how we are to ration it to our patients,” said Williams.

When the vaccination is distributed, those who are at high risk such as children, the elderly, diabetics, patients with heart disease or respiratory illness, as well as health care workers, are encouraged to get vaccinated first, said Williams.

Heidi Short, a licensed practicing nurse, agreed that the public has reason to be worried about getting their shots late in the flu season. However, she cautioned that getting a flu shot does not ensure protection from the disease.

Last year Short gave her father the flu vaccine. "He was the only one out of the six of us who wanted it, and he was the only one who got the flu," she said.

Patients can lower their odds of getting the flu not only from a vaccination, but also by being smart and healthy, she said. Short encouraged people to increase their intake of vitamin C, drink lots of fluids, maintain a healthy diet, take multivitamins and get plenty of rest.

Contact a physician to find out when and where the vaccine can be found, Short advised.
The idea for the program traces back to a fall 1998 meeting between Prayer Tower pastor Clarence Welch, former Pinellas County School Board superintendent Verle Davis, community leader Katurah Pittman, Zubrod and USF-St. Petersburg Dean William Heller.

"One of our concerns was the low scores African American students were making on the test," Welch said. "We decided to do something in the community to these students could get into the best schools."

"When it originally started it was a totally volunteer effort," Zubrod said.

The program is now funded by a grant from the Florida Department of Education that covers supplies such as study guides. The grant also covers the pay for the program's resident math guru Darlina Hubbard and team tutor Nick Federico.

Hubbard, a member of the Prayer Tower congregation with an uncanny ability for breaking down math problems, has been with the program since the beginning.

She begins each session by reading a Bible passage. One favorite is Luke 1:37: "With God all things are possible."

"Tell them if they believe this, then they can do math," Hubbard said. "All things are possible; some people just have to work harder."

When teaching, Hubbard emphasized process and detail. It was not enough to get the right answer, she said. The students must know how they got there. She also injected a good bit of humor, important for kids sitting through a sixth day of school. When one young man said he knew an easier way to solve a problem only to break down under questioning and admit he guessed, Hubbard invited the class to give him a round of applause. And they did, much to his amusement.

"I am really impressed with the students," Hubbard said. "They have been very energetic. I expect them to do nothing but the best and I will accept nothing less. My goal is that they all succeed, not just the cream of the crop or the brightest."

By CHRIS CURRY
Of the Crow's Nest

For many teenagers, Saturday morning is time to sleep late or laze about on the couch watching reruns of "Growing Pains." Northeast High School senior Kecia Harris Robinson, on the other hand, spends her Saturday mornings grappling with algebraic word problems and reading comprehension exercises.

"My goal is that they all succeed, not just the cream of the crop or the brightest." - Darlina Hubbard

At 9:30 on a Saturday morning, Robinson and more than 40 other juniors and seniors from schools including Osceola, Pinellas Park and St. Petersburg Catholic were at St. Petersburg's Prayer Tower Church, 1137 37th St. S., for a rather unusual reason -- a voluntary extra day of school. These were not behavioral problems sitting through weekend detention. They were determined young men and women, including honor students and athletes, enrolled in a free SAT preparation course USF-St. Petersburg and Prayer Tower offer to college-bound black students.

On nine fall Saturdays, the students spend three hours seated on folding chairs inside the yellow and white walls of the modest Prayer Tower school building, studying grammar, algebra and geometry.

Robinson said that the course has helped calm her nerves about taking the SAT for the first time this December. It has already produced results in her schoolwork.

"The math part has helped with my trigonometry homework," Robinson said.

The bad part, she said, is getting up early on a Saturday.

"It's an enormous commitment for students to give up three hours for nine Saturdays in a row after they've already been in school for five days," said the course's coordinator, Dr. Alexis Zubrod, a professor in USF's master's of counseling program. "I have a tremendous respect for the kids because I know how hard it is for adolescents to commit to such a large amount of work."

Northeast senior Andrew Harris was another student who liked to keep busy. After a full week of school, Harris quarterbacked the Vikings football team on Friday night and then rolls out of bed bruised and sore to make it to Prayer Tower on time.

"It's either that or get stressed out when you take the test," Harris said. And Harris' situation was not unique. Several young men in the class were wearing their Northeast and Lakewood football T-shirts.

"For some students last year, our program made the difference in whether they were able to take advantage of an athletic scholarship," Zubrod said.

Students who have taken the SAT before usually see a jump in score of more than 100 points after the program at Prayer Tower, Zubrod said. Some students have raised their scores by more than 300 points.

The SAT preparation course is part of the urban initiative, this campus' program to bring the resources of the university to the black residents of neighboring south St. Petersburg. New urban initiative facilitator Terry Bradley began tutoring at Prayer Tower this semester.

"It's really hands on," Bradley said. "The tutors are all educators and we care about the kids."

Zubrod said that the informal setting of a neighborhood church's school building/recreation hall makes the students feel comfortable.

"Cross cultural counseling reviews in psychology literature state to effectively intervene with African American youth it is important to involve the family, so we often call and talk to the parents, and provide services within the neighborhood, especially the church setting where they can feel comfortable."

Bradley said that, considering the importance of the SAT, it was hard to overstate the value of the program.

"A lot of these kids are first generation college kids," Bradley said. "Their parents probably never dreamed of going to college. It's a huge step."

To help with the transition, the program offers career and financial aid counseling.

"One reason we're offering the program is the critical shortage of minority educators," Zubrod said. "A lot of the students let me know that they were interested in going into education after this program."

Dr. Chris Curry

The program has been in school for five years when seniors Darlina Hubbard and St. Petersburg Dean William Heller recently foggy morning. (Photo by M.E. Baker)
'Open mike' night a time of fun, opportunity

By MELANIE BARAT
Contributing Writer

If you've been singing in the shower for a while, but feel you're ready for a bigger venue in which to perform, you might stop by the Tavern at Bayboro on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. for "open mike night."

Open to all creative original artists including musicians, writers, poets, comedians, and performance or visual artists, the Tavern provides a relaxed, supportive environment for local performers to share their talents and shed their jitters about performing in front of an audience.

Shana Smith hosts the popular event. A local performer of child and adult music under the stage name Shana Banana, she occasionally performed at the Tavern while working on her master's degree in oceanography from USF-St. Petersburg. After graduating, she took some time off to pursue her love of music and began the open mike night at another location.

"When it was time to change locations a year ago, we had built up this group of local artists and we wanted to keep the event going," Smith said. So she approached Gavan Benson, co-owner of the Tavern at Bayboro since 1987. "Gavan was really receptive to the idea," she said. "And I knew it was the perfect place for it."

"We would not have had this crowd on Wednesday nights if not for open-mike nights," said Bonnie Zopfi, who works at the Tavern. "I see a lot of the same crowd and then some new faces as well," she said.

Pam Green, a self-confessed open-mike groupie, enjoys just hanging out with the crowd and compares the atmosphere to the well-known sitcom "Cheers." "It's a place where everybody knows your name," she said.

The event attracts all types of artists: those who enjoy performing just as a hobby, those who are interested in performing professionally, as well as those who have performed professionally.

Chancy Groth, a retired road musician, has been playing for 56 years. He played with a back-up band for Merle Travis in the 1970s. His vast repertoire of instruments includes piano, banjo, guitar, bass guitar, mandolin and organ. He also does some poetry. "A lot of people think that music and the music scene is where the big stars are," Groth said. "But that's not true. There is a lot of talent right here; they just didn't choose that lifestyle."

George Draper was playing and singing country music one recent Wednesday night at the Tavern. Draper said he was inspired by his father, a musician in the 1940s who took in other struggling musicians and gave them guidance and encouragement. "I remember when I was little we had a blind black man over who sold peanuts on the corner," Draper said. "That man's name was Ray Charles."

Open mike nights have provided similar inducements for some.

"There have been people who've attended the open mike night regularly, and eventually quit their day job," Shana said.

People like Ted Wray, who co-hosts with Shana. "When I first met Ted, he was fairly new to town, and was working at a print shop. But he had always been interested in performing music. He started coming to open mikes and later started co-hosting," Shana said.

"People were very receptive and very encouraging," Wray said. "And I met some people who were making a living as musicians. In less than a year, I ended up quitting my job," he said. Wray currently is working full-time on recording his own CD and stays busy performing locally.

Ken Robinson and his friends Alex Smith and Richard Flamm also share a love of music. Robinson and Smith write their own songs, play acoustic guitar and sing. Flamm plays harmonica.

They had been getting together once a week at each other's houses, just to sing and play for fun. When they heard about the open-mike night at the Tavern through an advertisement in the "Weekly Planet" newspaper, they decided to check it out. "We thought we would just go down and see how people liked it (their music)," Robinson said. "And it was a chance to do some of our original stuff."

A performer who identified himself only as Ryan plays bluesy versions of rock and roll songs as he entertains the crowd at the Tavern at Bayboro during "open mike night." (Photo by Aaron Quinn)

Recently, after performing at the Tavern, the trio was approached and invited to perform at a local AM radio station that features local artists with original material. "We are still so surprised," Robinson said. "We were just going there [the Tavern] for fun and to see if we sounded all right. It just goes to show that you never know what's going to happen down there."

Bayboro dredging to allow bigger ships, fix storm-damaged Egmont beaches

By JAY WILKE
Contributing Writer

St. Petersburg city officials are hoping to get double benefit from the current dredging in Bayboro Harbor. They want more and larger ships to use the port. They also want to repair damaged beaches.

The dredging aims to remove enough sediment to make the harbor channel around 24 to 26 feet deep, according to Nick Christensen, director of operations for the Port of St. Petersburg. He said this depth is necessary in order to accommodate the larger-sized boats that the port authority hopes to lure into the harbor.

Current depth of Bayboro Harbor varies between 22 to 30 feet. The city plans to build a cruise terminal on the harbor that will be able to accommodate large cruise ships and other passenger vessels, Christensen said. The city also hopes to bring in large cargo ships that import and export trade goods from Mexico.

Port of Bayboro plans to provide a storage area for cargo, parking, luggage handlers, food services and a docking area for ships.

Even with dredging, the depth of the harbor will not be able to accommodate all boats, said Christensen.

Larger boats such as cruise ships need room to turn and maneuver. The current turn area is about 200 feet wide. In order to accommodate modern vessels, the area needs to expand to 400 feet wide, he said.

Gene Olson, marine superintendent for the Florida Institute of Oceanography, expressed concern that the dredging will raise an odor that may waft onto campus. He said that when USF installed the east seawall along the Marine Science peninsula, there was a "terrible sulfur smell."

John Paul, professor of marine science at USF-St. Petersburg, said that any smell that may arise from the dredging is likely the result of sulfate-reducing bacteria. This bacteria converts sulfate to sulfide, which smells like rotten eggs. Additional organic sulfur compounds also may affect the smell, he said.

Christensen said that the dredging company, Weeks Marine, will be taking precautions to minimize the operation's impact on the environment. The dredging will have little or no effect on the water quality of Bayboro Harbor, he said.

Dredging is likely to last until January, Christensen said.

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Nov. 8 - 21, 2000
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By LINDA YOUNG
Contributing Writer

Two University of South Florida professors have been honored for their writing and editing about the history of World War II-era Florida.


The issue focused on personal recollections of Floridians to share their memories of World War II.

"For military men or civilians, blacks, Hispanics, or Anglos, rich or poor, young or old, life in the Sunshine State would never be the same," Mormino wrote in the article "On The Brink."

Arsenault and Mormino were surprised by the large number of responses to questionnaires asking prominent Floridians to share their memories of where they were when Pearl Harbor was attacked. The stories produced enough material to spawn another project, a book of World War II reminiscences, Mormino said.

The details that the World War II generation held for the presidency. Nine of them endorsed the Democratic candidate, but for Nader's supporters, the New Deal, World War II experience, the father-in-law also served, although the two soldiers did not vote.

The USF-St. Petersburg campus, in fact, owes its existence at least partly to the war. The Bayboro campus really came out of the World War II experience, as the self into position as the Reform Party's candidate for the White House, then a state populated predominantly by people born in the South, where segregation was pervasive, and told how Pearl Harbor and the ensuing war brought change.

"For military men or civilians, blacks, Hispanics, or Anglos, rich or poor, young or old, life in the Sunshine State would never be the same," Mormino wrote in the article "On The Brink."

Given the attention third party candidates received this election season, 2000 was an ideal time to make a statement that Americans want something different from their leaders. These college paper endorsements missed a great opportunity. They could have reached for the promise, their desires exceeding their grasp yet signaling to our leaders that we want and expect better. Instead, they went with the conventional, the attainable, the realistic, the pragmatic.

Perhaps these endorsements signal that with full employment and a healthy economy, our society has become willing to accept, even perhaps, the mediocrity of our national leadership so as not to upset our stock portfolio or tarnish the image for that IPO. Or, perhaps, our disillusionment has become so great that we must continue to vote to let our eyes, to see all the possibilities, and to reach out and touch the impossible.

Kathy Arsenault
Gary Mormino

The volume of material available for the watching for manatees, turtles, birds, and other wildlife.

Inspectors also monitor the wildlife at Egmont Key in order to make sure that animals are not injured. "Some things as simple as a turtle can bring a million-dollar operation to a standstill," Christensen said.

Bayboro Harbor generally needs to be dredged about every five years.

Top box donations to aid Oasis trip
Recycle those box tops and help a campus learning program earn money.

The Oasis program is collecting box tops from various Betty Crocker and General Mills boxed foods to help with the cost of a student field trip to the Dry Tortugas. Students plan to visit coral reefs in the Dry Tortugas and the Newfound Harbor Marine Institute in Big Pine Key. General Mills will redeem each box top for 10 cents. "Box Tops for Education" logos can be found on these products:

- General Mills cereals
- Betty Crocker fruit snacks and other Betty Crocker products
- Yoplait yogurt multipacks
- Yoplait G-GURT yogurt
- Lloyd's barbecue buckets
- General Mills Foodservice products

Top boxes can be turned in to the Oasis program at SPV 101 or at the collection box in the Campus Activities Building.

Oasis is a dropout prevention program for junior high school-age students.

Nov. 8 – 21, 2000
WASHINGTON, DC (U-Wire) - More than 7,000 students have lost federal financial aid under a new drug law penalizing students convicted of illegal drug offenses. A nationwide student campaign opposing the law has scored its first victories of the school year, with student governments on opposite coasts endorsing its efforts.

Amherst College in Massachusetts and Lewis & Clark in Oregon have added their voices to those of 22 other student governments who have adopted a resolution calling for passage of H.R. 1053, a bill to repeal the Higher Education Act (HEA) drug provision.

Other student governments supporting the resolution include those of University of Wisconsin at Madison, University of Oregon, University of Michigan, Yale, Pennsylvania State University, University of Colorado at Boulder, as well as multi-campus organizations like the United States Student Association and the Association of Big Ten Schools.

The campaign has taken on a new urgency in light of tightening regulations passed by Congress last spring that threaten to do away with student aid programs. "If enough schools around the country could get their faculty and student body to speak out against this educational injustice, the politicians must listen," said Andrew Epstein, president of Amherst College Students for Sensible Drug Policy, who brought the resolution to the attention of his student government.

"The resolution passed overwhelmingly. This shows me that the students are way ahead of the politicians on this issue. Now we've got to let Congress know that we aren't going to sit down quietly while they use our educational opportunities as cannon fodder for their so-called "War on Drugs,"" Epstein added.

The student HEA reform campaign and Students for Sensible Drug Policy were featured in the 26 issue of "Rolling Stone" magazine. The campaign has attracted a range of allies, organized under the umbrella of the Coalition for HEA Reform. Members include the NAACP, ACLU, National Organization for Women, American Public Health Association, and an array of civil rights, education, religious, women's and drug policy groups.

The Coalition charges that the new law discriminates by both race and class. "Unresolved problems in the criminal justice system, such as racial profiling, contribute to African-Americans making up 55 percent of all drug convictions even though African-Americans comprise only 13 percent of illegal drug users," said Steven Silverman, campus coordinator for the Drug Reform Coordination Network, the organization coordinating the Coalition's efforts, "and the law directly discriminates against the poor and working class, because it doesn't affect those wealthy enough to go to school without financial aid."

Further information on the campaign is available online at www.RaiseYourVoice.com.

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**Drug law may cause loss of financial aid**

> **What's Goin' On?**

*Drug contest offers $1,000 scholarships*

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (PRNewswire) - The MassMutual Financial Services Challenge announced a national scholarship essay competition that will provide a total of $20,000 to 20 college juniors.

All full-time third-year college students can apply to take the "Financial Services Challenge" and become eligible for a $1,000 scholarship. Entries must be submitted to MassMutual by 5 p.m. EST on Dec. 1, and winners will be notified on Jan. 2, 2001.

A student must write an essay of no more than 1,000 words describing how a current event or trend they identify will impact the future of the financial services industry. The paper must be titled, and the event or trend clearly stated.

All submissions will be judged on 1) quality of the topic and its relevance to the financial services industry, 2) creativity and innovation, and 3) cohesiveness and clarity of presentation.

Professor Vincent Ferraro will judge the entries. A specialist in international relations and foreign policy, Dr. Ferraro has chaired the International Relations Program at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts since 1981. His scholarly work includes articles and papers on international economic issues.

Additional rules and more information may be found at the careers section of MassMutual's Web site, http://www.massmutual.com.

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All submissions will be judged on 1) quality of the topic and its relevance to the financial services industry, 2) creativity and innovation, and 3) cohesiveness and clarity of presentation.

Professor Vincent Ferraro will judge the entries. A specialist in international relations and foreign policy, Dr. Ferraro has chaired the International Relations Program at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts since 1981. His scholarly work includes articles and papers on international economic issues.

Additional rules and more information may be found at the careers section of MassMutual's Web site, http://www.massmutual.com.

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**Drug law may cause loss of financial aid**

> **What's Goin' On?**

*Drug contest offers $1,000 scholarships*

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (PRNewswire) - The MassMutual Financial Services Challenge announced a national scholarship essay competition that will provide a total of $20,000 to 20 college juniors.

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Group works to change ideas on religion

By CHRIS CURRY
Of the Crow's Nest

The situation was not outlandish. A student with a full-time job forgets about the homework assignment due that class for a grade, copies a friend's homework and turns it in.

This was one moral dilemma posed at Campus Crusade for Christ's weekly meeting and Bible discussion. The topic was that gray area between right and wrong where most of life transpires.

Coordinator John Schneider and the eight student members of the club, four short of the number of Apostles, were applying tenets espoused more than 2,000 years ago to contemporary college issues such as drinking, premarital sex and gambling. In the above case the consensus was that turning in your friend's homework wasn't even a gray area. It was just wrong.

But this was not an assembly of holier-than-thou types sequestered in an ivory tower of morality casting aspersions at the wrong. It was friends gathered in such as drinking, premarital sex and gambling. In the above case the consensus was that gray area between right and wrong where most of life transpires.

Campus Crusade is a nationwide interdenominational Christian student organization now in its second semester on this campus. Publicizing and scheduling meetings at a commuter campus with a high number of married students and professionals who only take night classes is a big challenge for the fledgling group, Schneider said.

"We're just getting started here," he stated. "A lot of people say they're interested but we're still trying to get the word out."

Schneider grew up going to church but said that his faith deepened in college. He joined Campus Crusade as a student at Florida State University. The biggest challenge he saw to being a Christian on the modern college campus is overcoming preconceived ideas about the religion.

"People often think it's just a set of rules," Schneider said. "That is not what it's about.

Campus Crusade for Christ began at the University of California Los Angeles in 1951. The organization now has full-time staff on 140 campuses and works with students and churches at 700 more campuses. There are also international chapters, including one in South Korea.

Schneider and his wife Kerri are the only full-time Campus Crusade staff members in the Tampa Bay area. Within his designated area, which includes Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco and Manatee counties, are 32 college campuses and more than 130,000 students, he said.

Campus Crusade has seven chapters at various stages of development at area schools including the USF-Tampa campus and some St. Petersburg Junior College and Hillsborough Community College campuses.

"It ranges from three people on some to 20 on others," Schneider said. "We have a good group started at the University of Tampa."

Schneider said his job is to get the club off the ground and then turn it over to student members like Barnes and senior Clayton Tieman.

"I'd like to see more people show up," Tieman said. "I'd like to see us go out and do something once a month or maybe once a week."

Tieman said he was relatively new to the Christian outlook on life. "I hadn't had a relationship with Christ in a long time and I was doing a lot of soul searching. It's given me the strength to overcome some habits and things I used to do."

Campus Crusade for Christ meets every Wednesday at noon in the Harborside Lounge downstairs in Bayboro Hall. A free lunch is provided on the first Wednesday of the month.

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Run for Student Government office!

All positions available.

Pick up a candidate packet at the Student Government office in the Campus Activities Center.

Deadline for submitting to run is 9:00 a.m. Nov. 10.

Student Government Elections

November 13-16

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LEAD THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY!

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Crow's Nest
Nov. 8 – 21, 2000