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Dorm staff called police on suspicious man in RHO lobby

By LENAY RUHL
Contributing Writer

A man entered Residence Hall One on Tuesday, Aug. 23, at 12:34 a.m. calling for a student exiting. Jamal Wise, the USF St. Petersburg working at the front desk in RHO, informed the man that he couldn’t be in the building, and the man asked for water.

“He was really aggressive with the water,” Wise said.

Sky Roberts, working the shift before Wise, informed Wise that there had been a robbery at Subway earlier in the evening, and that police were on the lookout.

The man who entered the building was the same man that had allegedly robbed a downtown Subway on Third Street S. around 10 p.m. on August 22, later identified as Robert Allen Walker, 47. At Subway, he had asked to use the store’s phone, but the two workers on duty asked him to leave because the store was closed.

Walker allegedly had a knife at Subway. He was arrested later that night, the morning of August 23, outside of Residence Hall One and charged with robbery with a weapon, and held on $50,000 bail, according to the police report.

Wise followed Walker, who passed the water fountain and went directly to the vending machine. Wise assumed he was a homeless individual—until he saw the money in the man’s hand. Wise had his friend, student David Roberts, distract Walker while he went to call the police.

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Walker told Roberts that he had just gotten into a fistfight, and kept asking if there were police around.

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Surveillance cameras installed for extra security in library

By AIMEE ALEXANDER
Managing Editor

Thirty-five surveillance cameras were installed over the summer in the Nelson Polynier Memorial Library, and were up and running by the first day of classes on August 22.

The cameras are located in common areas of the library, the Dean’s Suite and Special Collections & Archives. Aside from a brief mention in the restroom newsletter, no visible signage exists to indicate the cameras’ presence.

In the near future, the university plans to post additional signage in the library, and on the website, informing visitors of the cameras.

Because the library is open to the general public on weekends and evenings, the surveillance cameras will record activity 24 hours a day. Campus officials say all video recordings are sent electronically through the library network to the USFSP Campus Computing unit where they are digitally processed and saved.

The library has taken precautionary measures in the past to address the safety needs of patrons and staff members, like hiring security guards from local firm Security Forces in the evenings and on weekends, a library spokesperson said. Cameras were the next measure in addressing safety at the library.

Any suspicious incidences should be reported to library staff and will be investigated by University Police Services and Security Forces. Video footage needed for an investigation will be provided by Campus Computing and sent to the campus police and library security personnel for viewing.

An incident involving a laptop that went missing from the library during the first week of school was resolved, in part, due to recorded footage from the surveillance cameras.

Although the laptop was turned in voluntarily, “had that person not turned in the laptop, then we would have filed formal Grand Theft charges against that person,” said Lt. Reginald Oliver of University Police Services.

Installation in public areas, where people can expect to have their actions observed by other people, is not a violation of privacy, university officials said.

Surveillance cameras are not new to USFSP’s campus. When cars were being vandalized last year in the parking garage, footage from the installed surveillance cameras helped identify the person responsible.

Cameras are also installed in Residence Hall One and several other buildings across campus.

Although the cameras offer an added measure of security, they should not be considered a substitute for crime prevention and visitors to the library should still take the necessary precautions to safeguard their belongings.

news@crowsneststpete.com

Community forum on education planned

By ARIELLE STEVENSON
News Writer

Documentary filmmaker Davis Guggenheim delves into the realities of the U.S. education system with his educational-expose “Waiting for Superman.” Released last year, the director behind the Academy Award-winning documentary “An Inconvenient Truth” uncovers the ways children are trying to get into better schools through magnet or charter lotteries.

Parents fill auditoriums to play a sort of acceptance- Bingo for their children’s education. Dependence on whether a child’s number is drawn and where they go to school could determine the rest of their lives.

The film will be shown at the Steidinger Auditorium at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on Monday, Sept. 12 at 6:30 p.m. A community forum with Pinellas County educators will follow. The event is free.

A recent study by the Florida Department of Education found that teachers in the state have only received a 1-percent salary raise in the last four years. The state decreased university funding by 28 percent between 2008 and 2011.

Governor Rick Scott’s early budget proposals cut between $3.3 billion and $4.8 billion from the education budget and per-student funding decreased by 10 percent. Teachers across the state now have to contribute 5 percent to their own retirement funds. A study among 30 developed countries revealed the U.S. is ranked 25th in math and 21st in science.

news@crowsneststpete.com

MORE INFORMATION

What: Waiting for Superman Film with community forum with Pinellas County Educators

When: Monday, Sept. 12, 2011 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Cost: Free

Where: Steidinger Auditorium
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
100 8th Ave. SE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

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**WAYS TO BE SAFE**

- Be aware of your surroundings and use common sense.
  - When entering your building—the residence hall, the Hilton, an apartment or another building on campus—do not let strangers or unauthorized people into controlled areas. If you can’t stop them from entering, report them immediately.
- Have your keys ready and enter your home as quickly as possible when returning. Lock the door behind you once you are inside.
- Always lock your door behind you whenever you leave your room.
- Keep your front door open for safety.
- For those living on campus, keep your university police on speed dial: 727-873-4140.

**Type presses donated to department**

**HARBOR HALL, continued from front page**

Faculty voted to stay in their current space. For the graphic design department the ample space at Harbor Hall allows for large format printing presses necessary to advance learning. Erica Greenberg-Schneider is a visiting professor in the graphic design department; her background is as a master printer and print publisher.

“I love the space,” Greenberg-Schneider said.

Right now, the graphic design department is geared towards two years of training for juniors and seniors. Greenberg-Schneider says they hope to expand the program into a four-year bachelor’s in studio art with a concentration on graphic design.

“That would allow for an art minor for those students who are undecided, too,” she said.

Graphic design department professors Neil Matthiessen and Lucy Trimarco are also master print makers so the evolution seemed natural. Friends of Greenberg-Schneider’s donated type presses to the department for the new facility.

“Type is the most important basic of space foundations as a graphic designer,” Greenberg-Schneider said.

Above the desk in the lobby is a painting of Dali. The lobby faces the North entrance, which is where students will enter for classes. Construction isn’t yet complete but Jeff Reisberg, director of campus commuting, says classes and offices will be open on September 6.

“There is still much to be done,” Reisberg said. “But the double doors in the main lobby will remain closed until the rest of the building is finished.”

I’ve talked to are waiting for me to set up meetings, so there is definitely interest out there,” Kerr said.

Though no dates or times are set in stone, the Market on the Walk would ideally take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Annette Kerr, director of student life and services for Student Government, said the idea behind the market was to bring “really serves as SG attorney general. She completed some of her duties to the best of her ability, but that it did not warrant impeachment.

“After the end of the day, even though my work wasn’t up to par, and I would be the first to acknowledge that and admit that, I don’t think I did a good job,” Wise said. “I have put a lot of hard work into Student Government in general in the past four years.”

Wise said that he thinks the complaints about Parsons job performance detailed in the memo were factual, and that the senate impeachment committee meeting was handled poorly, but that he does not have an opinion about the outcome of the meeting itself.

“T.J. Ewin submitted the memo because ‘the job had not been done for an extended period of time,’” he said. “The pro-tempore job is vital to the operation of the senate.”

Wise said that the complaints against Parsons were not severe enough to warrant an impeachment, citing a situation from 2008 in which the SG president at the time used A&S fee money for unauthorized purchases.

“Scott called impeachment a ‘political tool’ that should not be used lightly,” Wise said. “Impeachment is not a political tool to be used in an organization,” Scott said. “Does this have enough gravity, is this powerful enough to do serious harm to the morale of peers?”

Senate President Cory Hebert was present at the beginning of the summer, but was then out of town until the beginning of the fall semester for an internship. While Hebert was absent, Parsons had to complete his duties. (Part of the pro-tempore’s job is to complete the duties of the senate president when he or she is unable to do so.)

Scott served as pro-tempore over the summer while Parsons filled Hebert’s role. “All the duties listed were my responsibility as acting pro-tempore,” Scott said during the senate impeachment committee meeting.

“Some at the meeting were displeased with the fact that they were not recognized to speak during the meeting,” he said. “As chair of the committee, allowed one SG member to voice an opinion during the meeting, but then did not recognize anyone else not on the committee to speak.”

Student Matt Earl attended the meeting, the meeting which he felt was rushed and not treated as seriously as it could have been.

“The way the meeting was handled and the lack of investigation into the points addressed in the memo damage the ‘credibility’ of SG and ‘provides precedence for future student politicians to bend the rules,” Earl said.

Scott said the meeting had a “limited focus,” and that he felt he should not have recognized anyone to speak during the meeting because the purpose was just to address the memo, and not to hear any other opinions.

The senate held a vote of confidence for the committee, giving the senate the opportunity to vote on whether to keep Hebert and Parsons in their roles. The senate voted unanimously for Hebert, and all senators except one, who abstained, voted in favor of Parsons.

Parsons said she was shocked when she met with Hebert on August 27 and he outlined the ways in which Parsons had failed to complete some of her assigned duties.

Parsons said she considered resigning, and missed the Monday, Aug. 29 senate executive meeting because she had planned to submit a resignation letter. However, after thinking about it more, she decided to stay in her position. She planned to resign during the August 31 meeting. But the impeachment proceedings memo was submitted during the meeting.

Parsons said she did not feel she completed some of her duties to the best of her ability, but that it did not warrant impeachment.
New shops bring style to Central Avenue

By MEGHAN HOODHOOD
Contributing Writer

As the 600 Block of Central Avenue—between Fifth and Seventh Street in St. Petersburg—nears completion of its Phase 2 renovation, some of the city’s finest fashion entrepreneurs are taking advantage of the new clientele.

The 600 Block has come a long way since the beginning of summer, surprising passersby with new charm and endless eye candy. As shops come and go in the downtown area, residents have been starving to see something that will stay for a while.

The Trunk, an affordable boutique and styling shop in the Vitale Art Studio space at 651 Central Avenue, is one of the newer additions to Central Avenue but refreshingly optimistic about bringing more foot traffic to the 600 Block. The Trunk offers USF students a 25 percent discount, and promises to keep trendy, good quality clothes always on the racks.

Owners and St. Pete locals Aneesa Shakur and Marianne Shaffer have a helpful, hands-off approach to running their shop and styling their clients. Excluding of course the closet revamping service they also offer, in which they might get their hands on a few things. Shakur, a recent fashion merchandising graduate, said the already existing shop owners on Central have been very welcoming.

“It’s not about competition on this block. We’re all so different so we like to help each other out,” Shakur said.

Also St. Pete locals, Rosey Williams and Kaitlin Crockett are working hard at getting their shop Ramblin’ Rose, at 683 Central Avenue, ready for its grand opening on September 10.

Defining their shop as a vintage boutique and curiosity shop, Ramblin’ Rose is also rentable as a creative event space, design studio and community artist cooperative. With events already booked every weekend for the next month, Williams is looking to rent out the shop for lectures, workshops and parties.

These new local shop owners, who arguably know more about the fashion necessities of St. Pete residents, have come to show that they have more to offer than just affordable price tags. The enthusiastic locals are working to make the downtown area more approachable and entertaining.

“We are very community oriented and have a very different appeal from chains and stores in the mall,” Williams said. “The 600 Block is good for great local shops and independent businesses who care about our city.”

Students take the plunge with campus rec

By MARIA ALMEIDA
Contributing Writer

August 31 marked the final day of Welcome Week with events such as Get on Board Day and Take the Plunge with Campus Recreation. Although there was a slight rain delay, Take the Plunge went on as planned. The outdoor event was held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the Harborside lawn and included a dunk tank, inflatable bungee cord race, an inflatable five-sided sports carnival game and airbrush tattoos.

“The goal of the event was to promote intramural sports and campus recreation,” said Todd Clark, director of the fitness center and intramural sports.

In order to participate in the activities, attendees were asked to sign in and either to register for an intramural sport or add the USFSP Campus Recreation page as a friend on Facebook.

“Adding the page is the best way to get informed about campus recreation events and intramural sports,” Clark said.

Intramural sports include flag football, basketball, soccer, dodge ball, corn hole, water volleyball, and inner tube water polo. Registration is open until September 19.
On the fence

Student Government allocated A&S fee money to build a garden on campus to grow vegetables, offer educational opportunities, and expand over time. But summer break and changes in club leadership meant the garden sat unattended until the fall semester began. Now this year’s club members need to work out a plan to keep the garden growing.

By TAYLOR GAUDENS
Life Editor

Despite ample funding, a sizeable budget was not enough to keep Bayboro Garden flourishing over the summer. The garden became neglected because former Gardening Club president, Christian Coffey, stepped down and left no one in charge. Now those still involved in the club are working overtime to restore it, with twice weekly meetings and the possibility of a third.

“Coffey stepped up and committed,” Scott said. Then he left with a week’s notice, and as a result the garden and the club suffered.

“I was devastated,” said Scott, who served as SG president last year while the club was getting the garden up and running.

During spring 2011, Student Government created Bill S11-019-A2, and allocated $4,450 from the OCS and Miscellaneous account, in addition to an earlier original allocation to build the garden. Requests for funding a greenhouse for the garden were also addressed.

“The idea [of a greenhouse] itself is good, but the problem is the Gardening Club just started and we are concerned with how much money we’ve already given them,” said then Senator Dana Cribb in a March 3 Senate General Assembly meeting, according to minutes from the meeting.

“It takes a lot of people and time to maintain a garden of such size, and during the summer when most of the members are absent, it is hard to keep beautiful and pristine,” said Luke Hoerner, the current Gardening Club president.

Scott believes it is unfair to say the garden club has already failed and the budget was not enough to keep the garden up and running. “It takes a lot of people and time to maintain a garden of such size,” Scott said. “It would have been hard to keep beautiful and pristine, even if we did,” he said. He believes in the project because it is something that will be used as an educational tool.

Scott also hopes the club will blame the club for the neglect and “they will hold the right people accountable,” Scott said.

“I have no regret for doing what we did,” he said. He believes in the project because it is something that will be used as an educational tool.

Messages with meaning

By TAYLOR GAUDENS
Life Editor

Anthony Patterson, 19, uses the power of words and technology to reach others in hopes to inspire them to pause daily and get a different perspective on life.

The Sacramento, Calif., native, and USF St. Petersburg junior mass communications major, started his project Morning Texts, based on the inspirational messages at the end of Rev Run’s TV show “Run’s House.”

He wanted to share his thoughts with those close to him. Then he put his own spin on it—sending inspirational messages to people he does not know.

He started the project in November 2010, and it’s grown into more than he can fathom.

“I never imagined it would be as big as it is,” Patterson said.

Starting September 6, Patterson will text his inspirational messages to approximately 225 people, five days a week. With the help of publiclicity on Facebook, the revamped program has reached its highest numbers yet.

With an abundance of social media tools, Patterson chose text messaging to reach his followers because it is “the lesser of all evils,” he said.

He did not think he would reach a high number of readers, and Twitter’s 140-character limit was too restrictive. Patterson wants to reach as many people as possible and he feels the best way is via texts because “everyone has a phone,” he said.

If a person is interested, the option is right at their fingertips.

“A text is more personal than I ever imagined,” Patterson said.

He believes when a recipient of a Morning Text reads Patterson’s text message, they will understand the message is personal and meant for them. Although the messages are sent to more than 100 other people, Patterson tries to personalize it a little by sending more than one message.

“I respond to everyone who replies,” Patterson said.

Patterson’s new Facebook page has garnered the support and encouragement of his friends.

Patterson’s morning text message content comes mostly from his own thoughts. Sometimes he uses a quote or another person’s thought, like a line in a song or a Mark Twain saying. He uses others’ words to facilitate an idea he wants to share with other people.

The text messages usually come in about three separate messages. Patterson sees his project as “more of a service than just writing,” he said.

The message behind the messages is something for people to think about. Sometimes the texts have challenges, which both inspire the recipients to form different ways of thinking and help them gain different perspectives, he said.

The outcome of Patterson’s endeavor has surprised him but “I knew it could work,” he said. “Something would happen for someone, even if it did good for one person.”

It takes about an hour to send the messages to all the recipients, but Patterson enjoys impacting people.

The inspirational messages are for people of all ages.

“I want people to know that it is for everyone,” he said. “A 70-year-old man could be affected the same way as a 7-year-old girl.”

Some messages are more relevant to certain individuals than others, but Patterson researches his topics, whether it is history, language or something else.

About 70 percent of the recipients are women, who respond most frequently. When men respond, their messages are more “more in-depth,” Patterson said.

To learn more about the project, visit “Anthony’s Morning Texts of Inspiration” on Facebook or to receive morning texts send Patterson your phone number: apatter4@mail.usf.edu.
City seeking funds for street cameras

By JOE CASTAGNA
Contributing Writer

Comedian Geoff Keith’s performance on August 31 in Davis Hall brought a wildly hilarious end to Welcome Week 2011.

Since 2003, Keith has been performing comedy anywhere he could find an audience. He has been featured on "The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson," "Chelsea Lately" and has also toured with comedian Pablo Fransisco. He is best known for his appearances on the MTV hidden camera dating show "Disaster Date," which he plays characters like The Homeless Guy or Mr. Romance in attempts to horrify his unsuspecting dates.

"It’s like ‘Punk’d’ but with a dating twist," Keith said.

"The Harborside Activities Board, which uses various booking agencies to find acts, planned the event. Each member picks out a different act and board members then vote on their favorite."

"When I first saw videos of Geoff, I thought he was hilarious," said Alauria Mattiorr, director of stage acts. "I almost started crying it was so funny."

"The board hosts comedians at the beginning of both spring and fall semesters. Keith included the audience as much as possible in his act, especially the front row."

"Why do you guys keep pointing at each other over there?" Keith asked to some members of the audience after making a marijuana related joke. "You guys smoke before you came here or something? Don’t worry, I’m not going to tell anyone."

When one student left the room to take a phone call, Keith asked the student’s girlfriend to whom he might be talking.

"Probably his room," she said.

"You sure? Because I keep all my mistresses under ‘mom’ on my phone," Keith said. "Trust me, that was not his mom."

The student came back to report that it was someone who was interested in buying his car.

"Oh, well while you were gone I tried to convince your girlfriend that you were cheating on her," Keith said.

By the end of the show Keith had a joke about nearly every demographic and stereotype in the room. The audience was a good sport throughout the whole show.

"I don’t think anyone was offended at all," said student Jon Ericson. "It’s a comedy show. If you’re worried about getting offended you should stay home."

Student and stand-up comedy fan Israel Weaver found out about the event through his friends, who helped put it together.

"I’ve gone to a lot of stand up comedy shows and this was one of the better ones," Weaver said.

News@crowsneststpete.com

ZUMBA fitness with SHEILA

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- T.Th. 5:30 p.m.

$10 per class or 10 for $75
719 Arlington Ave. N (Downtown St. Pete)
Sheila Olsen: (727) 403-9996

HAB brings the laughs

Foster, continued from front page

ment in the area and more minority-owned businesses.

Foster pointed to the Business Assistance Center, which aids small businesses entrepreneurs; the Doorway Scholars program, which targets young students to motivate toward academic success; and the Paris Project, a street-by-street neighborhood revitalization program as steps in the process to improve the Midtown and South districts.

A Business Assistance Center representative is essential to success, Foster said, and “doesn’t cost you a penny.”

While the city has no direct involvement in education, two members of Foster’s staff work on collecting donations for the Doorway Scholars program. Recipients of the scholarship have a 93 percent graduation rate, he said. He also pays his employees to spend time mentoring at St. Petersburg schools.

Foster himself is a mentor at John Hopkins Middle School.

When asked about crime in downtown, Foster said that the city is seeking federal funding for street cameras, but has no plans to pay for the program itself. He said he’d prefer St. Petersburg avoid getting cameras, but has no plans to pay.

The mayor also hinted at future development at Baywalk. “I am optimistic Baywalk will improve,” he said, and that he was privy to exciting information but wouldn’t discuss particulars to avoid jeopardizing any future deals.

During the meeting he urged USFSP journalism students to ask follow-up questions and to stick with the truth, but remained adamant that the presence of a St. Petersburg Times reporter in the audience was preventing him from being truly candid.

“There is someone in the room that buys ink by the barrel,” he said.

After the conclusion of the meeting Foster stayed and spoke with several students and addressed a question about press exclusion from public events. Foster said that he likes to speak with residents without having to see his or their words in print the next day, and that not all policy discussions are ready for mass consumption.

He said he understood residents’ discomfort with street cameras, but “if you’re just having a good time, who cares if you’re on candid camera.”

The mayor spoke briefly about the lack of communication between the Rays and the city. “They’re not talking and I can’t make them talk,” he said.

He said he views the Rays as a regional asset that requires regional support, but that St. Petersburg has “more skin in the game” than other Tampa Bay municipalities.

“I am committed to doing everything we can, short of rolling over and letting them leave St. Petersburg,” he said. The Rays’ contract with the city expires in 2027.

Foster also addressed plans for the new pier. The current pier is old, with a lot of exposed rebar and a design that is not conducive to maintaining businesses or resident interest, he said.

“We can have an iconic structure that will be a place locals want to go,” Foster said.

He wants The Pier to remain at the same length to provide a unique view into the city, have access for fishing, be easier to get to and to be “the new brand of St. Petersburg for the next hundred years.”

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News@crowsneststpete.com

FOSTER, continued from front page

Neighborhood News Bureau, a journalist and a concerned citizen” at a time.

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He said he was frustrated with a reporter that followed him around as he spoke to residents at a monthly public event. Foster said that private citizens don’t want their private conversation with the mayor made public, and he urged students not to be “that kind of reporter.”

Student April Parsons, a journalism major and one of the moderators of the event, said that she agreed that there was a time and a place for reporting and journalists should be careful to avoid violating the privacy of citizens, but wonders how to be a “journalist and a concerned citizen” at the same time.

The event was hosted by the Neighborhood News Bureau, a working newsroom and journalism-training program at USFSP led by journalism professor Loretta Cleveland.
editorial

Red light cameras to be installed in St. Petersburg

Several U.S. cities have banned use of the cameras

Slow down your roll stop because St. Petersburg is installing red light cameras around the city. Warning notices started September 15 and will last for 30 days. Citations will be issued after October 15. “The intent of this program is to enhance safety for our residents,” Mayor Bill Foster told Creative Loafing this week.

They may protect the safety of the citizens but they could be rife with electronic errors and cost money. Parking tickets are already $25 a pop, plus the city will boost any car that has three unpaid parking tickets. Meters are 75 cents an hour all over the city.

This isn’t New York City—it’s St. Petersburg.

Lawyers argue that the cameras enforce traffic laws by the state. “Therefore the ordinance provides less procedural protection,” the court concluded.

“The cameras could be placing the appointment of guilt into the hands of artificial intelligence—something that makes many uncomfortable. It’s one thing when a cruiser is hidden in a parking lot along Fourth Street. It’s another thing when stuck in bumper-to-bumper traffic when the camera goes click.”

Locations in St. Petersburg:

4th St./Gandy Blvd
4th St./54th Avenue N.
4th St./22nd Avenue N.
6th St./5th Avenue S.
34th Street/38th Avenue N.
34th Street/1st Avenue N.
34th Street/1st Avenue S.
34th Street/22nd Avenue S.
66th Street/38th Avenue N.
66th Street at Tyrome Blvd
-22nd Avenue N.

USF St. Petersburg will soon join a list of over 350 college campuses across the nation that have gone completely tobacco-free—whether students want it or not.

Last semester, the administration asked Student Government to pass a symbolic resolution in support of the planned smoking ban. SG admirably refused to commit any part of the planned smoking ban.

“The Florida Senate already killed a bill to regulate cameras to enforce traffic laws by the state. Lawyers argue that the cameras aren’t accurately identify the drivers. Plus, there is no way to know whether the person actually sped through the light or if the camera malfunctioned. According to the Associated Press, at least nine states and more than a dozen cities have banned the cameras. House shut down its red light camera program only weeks after Los Angeles did the same.

Over 500 cities throughout the country still use the cameras. Opponents of the cameras argue that they make money without increasing public safety. In Minnesota, the Supreme Court struck down red light cameras.

“If we was prepared for the pre- assumption that the owner was the driver that it eliminates the presumption of innocence and shifts the burden of proof away from the driver required by the rules of criminal procedure,” the court concluded.

Therefore the ordinance provides less procedural protection.”

But St. Petersburg is ready for the plunge.

“Too many drivers choose to ignore traffic signals and risk the dangers of running through a red light,” Foster said. “We want to change this behavior and encourage people to slow down and definitely stop on red.”

Over 500 cities throughout the country still use the cameras. Opponents of the cameras argue that they make money without increasing public safety. They also don’t always bring in the money either. In a down economy, parking tickets could be the last item on the priority list.

Daytona Beach, Fla., attorney Aaron Delgado is giving free services to those who receive tickets for red light camera tickets, according to the Daytona Beach News-Journal.

The cameras could be placing the appointment of guilt into the hands of artificial intelligence—something that makes many uncomfortable. It’s one thing when a cruiser is hidden in a parking lot along Fourth Street. It’s another thing when stuck in bumper-to-bumper traffic when the camera goes click.

quotesandnotes

Quote of the week

“I think it’s a great opportunity, and I love all challenges obviously because that’s all a challenge I’m looking at.”

-Bill Edwards, a longtime mortgage manger and first-time owner of purchasing the all-but-abandoned downtown Baywalk.

Campus smoking ban could create more litter

Ban would mean removing ashtrays from campus

Whether you become a CEO, a broke artist or a repeat convict, your story is essentially all you have as the years tick away. In due time, you’ll pour over books and pumping through dusty pages, study your patterns, and teach yourself valuable wisdom. I prefer the aesthetic of physical notebooks, but digital writing works just as well.

Research indicates that journaling is one of the healthiest releases for pent up stress. No offense Zuckeberi, but a status update just won’t cut it. Without deadlines or red-penned professors, the key is to have a coherent conversation with yourself in private. It’s just you and a stack of bound paper. Whether you’ve depleted your 12 free counseling sessions—which I recommend all students do—or grambling your thoughts is essential for a healthy mind.

Colleges is the time for mind expansion, but don’t forget the importance of reflection. Self-awareness is just as powerful as book knowledge. You only have one life and one story to share, so find time to crack open a blank journal, smell the fresh paper, pour a glass or two of wine, and get that ballpoint pen rolling.

By Chris Dorsey

Distribution Manager

Now that we’re a few weeks into another bustling school year, it seems those “to-do” reading, writing and arithmetic—remain at the helm of our education. We’ll never fully rid them from our endeavors, but quite honestly, we shouldn’t. Despite the Facebook distractions and busy hormones that hope “the one” is standing just a library aisle away, college is about expanding the mind. Sure, pouring over books and pumping out research papers are college staples, but schoolwork is not the kind of mind expansion I propose.

Don’t get me wrong; it’s unequally important to focus on your studies. Your classes will challenge you and open doors in the future, but experience is just as valuable as your ability to struggle through algebra equations.

After spending four years at another university and two here for graduate school, I would stress that of the three “Rs,” the one to keep Treasure through these roller coasters of maturation is: Write.

I admit, it’s a cliché thing to read in a newspaper chock full of writers, and not what most want to hear during a loaded semester, but that’s what grit is all about.

While smoking is not something to be encouraged, students, faculty and staff should not be punished for their habits, nor should they be-treated worse than others because of them.

The fact that the administration has chosen to ignore the student voice is troubling. What is to say that it will stop at tobacco-related products? Schools across the nation are opting strictly for “healthy alternatives” and soft drink bans to combat obesity. Are college campuses far behind? Students may soon find their voice has been lost in favor of the school’s collective health.

distributionmanager@crownestpete.com

editorial@crownestpete.com

Let the writing begin
A surreal workout

By SARAH LAFFIN
Contributing Writer

If you are looking for a creative way to de-stress before another intense week of school and work, look no further than the Salvador Dalí Museum, at One Dali Boulevard. Each Sunday, from noon to 1:30 p.m., the museum offers Inspire Yoga classes in the Community Room or the Avant-Garden, which both have sweeping views of the waterfront. For $16, you can turn a lazy Sunday into an exhilarating experience, starting with 90 minutes of yoga, and then browsing the surreal exhibits of Dalí’s work.

Inspire Yoga is open to people with all levels of experience, and is led by instructor Jen E. Smith. Practicing yoga on a daily basis helps increase strength and flexibility, and breathing exercises help relieve stress, clear the mind, and increase self-awareness. Visitors may leave the class feeling refreshed and empowered. Smith motivates the class with quotes she feels will inspire her students. Smith is also the director of www.retreatyourselfwell.com, a site that offers yoga retreats, events, and workshops for those who want to get further involved in the yoga community. The inspirational quotes she shares with the Inspire Yoga class can be found on her website under the Blog section.

Tickets for Inspire Yoga can be purchased at www.thedailial.org or are available at the Dalí Museum. Museum members and students with a student ID can buy tickets for $10 for museum members and students, and $15 without. Non-members can visit the galleries on the same day for an additional $6.

The website recommends arriving a few minutes early and bringing a towel and a yoga mat, although if you don’t own a mat, some are available for borrow. Bottles of water are provided upon entrance.

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opinion

Fantasy Football: Self-reflection edition

By HANNAH ULM
Contributing Writer

Houston Texans RB Arian Foster pulled a hamstring. This is big news to those who already drafted him as their No. 1. It’s also important to the Houston fans that see him as a shining beacon of hope.

But football players get injured all the time, so this wouldn’t really be an issue worth mentioning if Foster hadn’t insulted the 19 million fantasy sports players—a number confirmed in August 2011 by the Fantasy Sports Trade Association—with this angry tweet:

“@ArianFoster: 4 those sincerely concerned, I’m doing ok & plan 2 B back by opening day. 4 those worried abt your fantasy team, u ppl are sick”

Yahoo/Sports writer Chris Chase discussed Foster’s tweet in an August 28 article and argued whether there is actually a difference between fantasy owners and Houston fans.

“Arian, you’re a professional athlete. Nobody sincerely cares about you, they care about your performance. It’s great that you’re planning to be back for Week 1. Most people would agree,” Chase said in the article. “They do so because you’re a great running back who gives a team, whether it be the Texans or a not-so-cleverly-named fantasy squad, a better chance to win, not because you seem like a nice guy in real life.”

Although I do tend to grow emotionally attached to my favorite fantasy players, I completely agree with Chase. What makes me sick forrooting for individual players to do well, as opposed to a whole team? I’m guessing Foster thinks we only care because of the money we put into the fantasy pot, without considering how much fantasy football does for the real sport. Last year, Foster broke out with 1,016 rushing yards and 16 TDs. Without fantasy football, the only people who would have cared were Houston fans.

If 19 million people play fantasy football last year, it’s safe to assume at least 1 million people owned Foster. If we break it down to 10-person leagues, there would be 1.9 million Foster owners. We can’t disregard bigger leagues or those who own Foster in multiple leagues, so I think 1 million is a nice estimate.

Many of his fantasy fans might not care about him if they didn’t own him this year, but I am certain that he acquired some genuine fans simply by putting up major fantasy points last year.

What else will fantasy football do for the NFL? Perhaps players will start getting bonuses based on their draft average. There is no doubt that fantasy football has made big money for the real thing. A Washington Post article from 2006 reported NFL.com entering into a $600 million deal with Sprint influenced by fantasy football.

And that was in 2006, when only 10 million people were reportedly involved with fantasy sports. Five years and 9 million people later…who knows what could happen?

So is there some truth to Foster’s tweet? Are we fantasy owners “sick” for rooting for players because we have something to gain other than the satisfaction of “our” team winning? Although the Bucs are “our” team here, they aren’t “my” team the way the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are. Or is Foster tweeting carelessly, isolating the potential fans he’d gain by recognizing fantasy football’s influence? I’d love some feedback on this one.

life@crowsneststpete.com

By HANNAH ULM
Contributing Writer

After B.J. Daniels and our Bulls football team shocked the country by beating FSU in 2009, some started referring to Florida football teams as “The Big 4” instead of the previous “Big 3,” comparing USF to UF, FSU and UM. That didn’t last long.

Despite his heroes in Tallahassee, Daniels was inconsistent. Then the founding coach of USF football was gone. USF went back to being an underdog.

Against Miami, where we beat the Hurricanes 23-20 at their home field. Against Clemson, where we won 31-26, despite Clemson fans outnumbering ours by the thousands. And against Notre Dame, where our new coach led his new team to a 23-20 victory at his alma mater, against the school that made him famous.

The September 3 game was more than a win. It was a statement. Although Daniels had moments of struggles, he has never looked so confident or thrown so accurately. Although the defense missed some tackles, they stopped the Fighting Irish when it mattered.

It must be mentioned that Notre Dame played their part in the Bulls’ win as well. Their five turnovers set up opportunities otherwise unlikely. But USF’s lack of turnovers was crucial too. At UF last season, Daniels threw four interceptions. On Saturday, he didn’t throw any.

It’s impossible to predict a season from one game. But this game showed every USF fan the potential for an amazing season. We might not be an underdog much longer. Go Bulls.

life@crowsneststpete.com

Bulls beat Notre Dame after rainy day delays

By HANNAH ULM
Contributing Writer

Rocky, USF’s mascot, stomps on Notre Dame’s logo in this game-day illustration posted on Facebook.

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