12-7-2005

Crow's Nest : 2005 : 12 : 07

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.
in this ISSUE

Risky hands take the win

by JUSTIN LOWERY

In the end, his risks paid off. Sophomore David Stote was named the victor at the No Limit Texas Hold'em Tournament last Friday night. The poker game, which went on from 8 p.m. until the early hours of Saturday morning, attracted dozens of students and featured some highly-sought-after prizes. For five hours and 45 minutes, 42 students gathered at the Campus Activities Center to participate in and watch the tournament. Student Government supplied the funding for the prizes, said Heather Willis, president of Harborside Activities Board. The HAB also gave away a series of raffle prizes every 15 minutes, including DVDs, campus bookstore gift certificates and USF apparel.

Stote used aggressive play throughout all three rounds to take the win. Freshman Pete Hill nearly defeated Stote but started to lose his grip on the lead when a seven was flopped on the final card, giving Stote a straight and the overall chip lead. Afterwards, Stote continued to push through, winning with a flash by going all in on the final hand.

This all-or-nothing move was characteristic of Stote's playing style all night. "I just wanted to make people think that I didn't know how to play," Stote said. For his victory, Stote was awarded a $300 gift card from BestBuy.com. Hill won second and Bao Loung took third, receiving a $150 and $75 gift card from BestBuy.com, respectively.

Stote said he considers poker a hobby that he doesn't get to play nearly as much as he would like. "I play poker in my off-time and at the dog track," he said.

During the first round of the Texas Hold'em Competition, Sophomore Andrew Gyeness (top photo) squared off against junior John Hill (bottom photo). By the third round, Hill seemed more concerned about ending the tournament. "I just wanted to end it and I went all in," Hill said. "It's late and I've got to work in six hours."-TEXAS HOLD’EM

Soldiering on

Two veterans of World War II reflect on a century of history and progress

by ANTHONY SALVEGGI

From behind their microphones, the distinguished gentlemen shared their memories and opinions of World War II, segregation and the current war in Iraq in the Campus Activities Center at USF St. Petersburg last Thursday. The topic for the 2005 Harry Schaferman Lecture was "War and Memory: Gene Patterson and John Germany reflect on World War II.

Both men spoke for nearly two hours before a crowd of about 50 students, faculty and community members. The free event was sponsored by the USFSP Honors Program and the Campus Lecture Series Alumni.

Patterson is the former editor and president of the St. Petersburg Times. Germany, a graduate of Harvard Law School, is a partner with Holland & Knight law firm in Tampa. The main public library in downtown Tampa is named for him.

Both men have traveled parallel paths, serving as Army lieutenants during the war under Gen. Patton before rising to prominence and success in private life and through their community service.

Patterson noted that the war had at least two positive effects for American citizens: It had broken the Great Depression and led to the GI Bill of Rights, which enabled military personnel to continue their education. Patterson, who grew up in Georgia, said that educating soldiers at public expense "emancipated the ignorant of the South" and helped forge a generation of editors who opposed segregation.

After the war, Patterson went on to a 41-year career in journalism, serving as the editor of the Atlanta Constitution. Both men have a 41-year career in journalism, serving as the editor of the Atlanta Constitution during the civil rights era.

"By the end of my 20s, I had done the most important work in journalism I was going to do," he said.

Germany, a native of Plant City, Fla., had been attending the University of Florida when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941. He later enlisted in the Army ROTC and went through basic training at Fort Bragg, N.C.

In spring 1945, Germany was assigned to be a replacement officer in the 13th Armored Division, which saw action in central Europe. While there, his group liberated a concentration camp in Austria.

The division returned to the United
SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Following the recent Scholarship Luncheon, USF St. Petersburg received a gift from the Richard and Robin Daniels Foundation to support three students each semester. Full-time undergraduate and graduate students from all majors with a 3.2 GPA are eligible to apply. For more information on applying, contact Erin Dunn, director of Financial Aid, at 553-4128.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

The fall commencement ceremony will be held at Tropicana Field on Dec. 18, at 2 p.m.

USF HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

USF St. Petersburg will be closed Dec. 25 through Jan. 8 for the holiday break.

STOMP FEST

The First Annual USF St. Petersburg High School StompFest: Battle of the Bay will be held on Dec. 9 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Campus Activities Center. Tickets will be sold at the CAS desk beginning Monday, Dec. 5. Tickets are $5 in advance and $7 at the door. For more information, contact Steve Marshall at 553-4845.

BROWN BAG DISCUSSION

This month’s Community, Science and Environmental Policy Brown Bag discussion will be held on Dec. 9, from noon to 1:15 p.m. and will be part one of the planned Energy Series, with a focus on the benefits and the consequences of offshore drilling near Florida’s coastline. The forum will be held at the U.S. Geography Survey building in the first floor conference room.

The Community, Science and Environmental Policy Brown Bag Discussions, which are held the second Friday of each month at noon, are open to all and are meant to facilitate communications between the public and the many science institutions located around Bayboro Harbor concerning issues of common interest.

ARTS & SCIENCES DEAN SEARCH

See the chart at right for information about the upcoming forums for the Arts & Sciences dean search.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS for CAS dean position candidates

STEVEN HAGGBLOOM

- WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7
  2 – 3:15 p.m.: Open forum with Arts & Sciences faculty; others: Davis Hall 250
- THURSDAY, DEC. 8
  9 – 10 a.m.: Meet with Arts & Sciences staff; A&S Conference Room
  10:15 – 11:30 a.m.: Student forum; William House
  2:10 – 3:30 p.m.: Open forum – Library, advisor, enrollment, student affairs and campus community: TBA

BARRABARA HERTRICK

- MONDAY, DEC. 12
  2 – 3:15 p.m.: Open forum with Arts & Sciences faculty; others: Davis Hall 250
- TUESDAY, DEC. 13
  9 – 10 a.m.: Meet with Arts & Sciences faculty; others: Davis Hall 250
  10:30 – 11:30 a.m.: Student forum; William House
  2:10 – 3:10 p.m.: Open forum – Library, advisor, enrollment, student affairs and campus community: TBA

HOWARD SYPER

- WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14
  2 – 3:15 p.m.: Open forum with Arts & Sciences faculty; others: Davis Hall 250
- THURSDAY, DEC. 15
  9 – 10 a.m.: Meet with Arts & Sciences faculty; others: Davis Hall 250
  10:30 – 11:30 a.m.: Student forum; William House
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LIBRARY

The Barnes & Noble bookstore at Coquina Hall. The last day to contribute to the toy drive is Dec. 16.

"We would like to get a lot of toys this year and make it a good Christmas for local kids in need," Handal said. When it first began, the drive was called "Operation Santa Claus," which was started on the USF Tampa campus.

Jackie Wertz, president of the USF St. Petersburg Ambassadors, said the recipients in the past have been very grateful for the gifts.

USF Ambassadors is a student organization sponsored by the USF Alumni Association. The group was formed in 1979 to help promote the image of USF in the community.

SCHOlARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The USF Ambassadors are leading a toy drive on campus called "Operation Giving Tree," through which people can donate new toys for needy children.

The toys are going to ASAP Homeless Services and the YWCA USF Family Village, both of which are located near campus. The toys will be taken to both locations on Christmas Eve for distribution to the children.

"We would like things for kids of all ages, from infants, all the way up to adolescents," said Stephanie Handal, the community service chairperson for the USF Ambassadors.

Collection points are located at the College of Business computer lab, the Campus Activities Center, the Poynter Library, and the Barnes & Noble bookstore at Coquina Hall. The last day to contribute to the toy drive is Dec. 16.

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After their opening remarks, Germany and Patterson addressed questions from those in attendance.

Responding to a question regarding the war in Iraq, both Germany and Patterson stated their support for the war.

"We owe the Iraqi people something," Patterson said. He added that he expects the United States to slowly withdraw its military forces over the next two to three years.

Germany said that the continuing development of the global economy would help prevent future wars by making nations more dependent upon one another.

Regarding declining readership for newspapers and the emergence of alternative sources of information, Patterson noted that the demise of newspapers is nothing new and was also predicted when television and radio were invented. He said there would always be a need for newspaper journalism for a healthy democracy.

"The free press will guide a free people," Patterson said.

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BRIEF

by GENESSA POTH

assistant editor

by EMMA SYLVESTER

contributing writer

Student Govt. wrap-up

A summary of the most recent SG meeting

Below are highlights from the Nov. 30 Student Government meeting held in Davis Hall, room 130. Jan. 6, 2006, President Tom Piccolo will resign his leadership post and current vice president Diana MacDonald will take over as president. Treasurer Chris Koenig will also be resigning.

Part of MacDonald’s job in taking over will be to finish the work Piccolo has started to get legislation to approve the construction of a campus student center. Once it is approved and funding is secured, it will take two years of planning and construction to get the center built.

The budget committee met and passed next semester’s funding allocations for student clubs. The Safe Team is looking for more drivers.

Davis Lobby is now open but not completely finished. The ceiling, lights and coffee bar still need to be installed.

Errin Mills, the first coordinator of housing, discussed the job opportunities that come with the new residence hall. Applications are now available for the seven Resident Assistants and one Head Resident Assistant position. These positions will take effect in 2006.

Applications for hourly positions in Residence Life will be available during the middle of February regarding the spring semester. Resident Assistants will receive $5,000 per academic year and live in single apartments in the residence hall.

The Head Resident Assistant will receive $6,500 per academic year and be housed in a two- or four-person apartment.

A complete list of the job requirements can be found on the residence hall Web site at http://www.spt.usf.edu/housing/Employment_Opportunities.htm.

The Harborcide Activities Board was granted its special budget request for $8,000 in order to have the group Recycled Percussion perform on campus. The event is planned for Sunday, March 12 and will be open to the public, for a fee. Recycled Percussion is a band that uses trash and recycled items as its instruments.

Information sessions on employment with the new residence hall (all meetings will be held in Terrace, room 300):

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 12 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 7, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 10, 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 10, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 11, 12 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 11, 5 p.m.
Wishes and thanks

by ANTHONY SALVEGGI

Christmas is less than three weeks away and many of us will spend this joyous season in the company of our friends and loved ones, giving and receiving gifts as testaments to the strength of the bonds that unite us. But as this holy time approaches, we should reflect upon the situations of those for whom Christmas will not be measured by the quantity or quality of material gifts given or received, but by the love that keeps them strong and hopeful in the midst of terrible circumstances.

There are millions all over the world who will not be able to participate in the traditional celebration of Christmas or other seasonal holidays that many of us take for granted. Think of those who survived the numerous hurricanes that ravaged the Gulf Coast and Cancun, Mexico and south Florida in recent weeks. Remember the men and women who are fighting overseas, who will not be able to wake up Christmas morning with their loved ones.

Think of the millions young and old, rich and poor who will spend the holidays in hospitals, fighting the diseases that afflict humankind.

Think of the homeless who struggle day in and day out to survive — who don’t have the luxury of a warm bed and loving family but must find shelter on a daily basis and fight the growing pain of hunger. But let us do more than just mind their plight, as if by doing so we have somehow fulfilled our obligation to our fellow men by sentimentalizing their despair. Let each of us also find the generosity and the will to help those for whom this holiday season is touched by sadness.

And let us all pledge to open our hearts beyond the month of December and incorporate love, kindness and benevolence into our daily lives.

THANK YOU, BETH REYNOLDS

On behalf of The Crow’s Nest, I’d like to extend our immense gratitude to Adjunct Professor Beth Reynolds, who teaches photojournalism with the Department of Journalism and Media Studies. Ms. Reynolds recently donated to The Crow’s Nest cameras that she purchased from the St. Petersburg Times. We appreciate her wonderful generosity and feel her contribution should be recognized and shared with the campus community that we serve.

STAFF FAREWELLS

This semester has flown by — I can hardly believe this is our 13th and final issue of the term. I’m extremely proud of our staff for working so hard to make The Crow’s Nest the best it can be. We all strive to produce a quality newspaper by learning from our mistakes and improving our content with each and every issue. And we will continue that endeavor next semester.

Unfortunately, we will have to carry on without four members of our staff — assistant editor Genessa Goth, photographer Paul Nguyen, senior staff writer Wendy Owen and staff writer Tammy Barthlett are each graduating at the end of this term.

Genessa is an outstanding journalist who elevated each issue of the paper with the quality of her articles. She has been an invaluable resource to all of us on the staff, setting a high standard for our writing. I’m pleased to announce that Genessa’s talents were recently rewarded when she joined the editorial staff of Her Sports Magazine, which has its corporate headquarters in downtown St. Petersburg.

Wendy and Paul are also outstanding journalists in their own right whose contributions will be missed. Paul is a fine photographer who will hopefully find a position that takes advantage of his considerable talents. And Wendy has proven herself as a dedicated and knowledgeable movie critic with a flair for writing memorable reviews that convey her passion for the medium.

Tammy is well on her way to becoming an excellent sports writer and has my thanks for covering the sailing team and the Bulls football team throughout this semester. As members of The Crow’s Nest prepare for the spring term, we will try our best to live up to their fine example.
The Campus Activities Center offers several different types of martial arts classes, including shorin ryu and judo. Classes are generally only $25 per semester. For more information, call 553-4596.

WATERFRONT

Students can learn to sail for free if they join the sailing team. Free kayak rentals and use of the pool are also available for students. Call the Waterfront at 553-4597 for more information.

MARTIAL ARTS

The Campus Activities Center offers several different types of martial arts classes, including shorin ryu and judo. Classes are generally only $25 per semester. For more information, call 553-4596.

As he prepares to graduate, Nguyen offers some parting words to those who continue to toil under the rat's tail.
It was the hardest decision I have ever made during my entire college career. Within two minutes of receiving my USF St. Petersburg student ID during freshman orientation, it plummeted into the toilet.

Walk away or submit myself to the porcelain king?

I washed my hands more thoroughly than Howard Hughes. Since that day I have had an uncanny relationship with USF St. Petersburg and have deemed myself as a CAC rat, short for Campus Activities Center rat. Being a rat, I have experienced every inch and corner of this campus.

What I have noticed the most, being a scavenger and all, is the large portion of food left over from various events. There is a simple equation that explains this phenomenon:

LOTS OF LEFTOVER FOOD = STUDENT APATHY

In my time here, I have heard two lines from students that explain this apathy: "I just go to class and go home," and "There is nothing to do on campus."

Do you really want to remember your college experience as a go-to-class-then-go-home relationship? Granted there are plenty of other interesting outings and events outside of campus, but there's free food here! As far as the claim, "there is nothing to do" – that's not true. The Harborside Activities Board has done a fine job of feeding and entertaining me with events. And other programs have offered students fun, non-educational outlets. The following pictures show only a small portion of what this campus has to offer.

School should not just be a learning experience, so please proceed to your nearest campus toilet.
Happy to be disappointed

by CHRIS GEORGE
contributing columnist

The Bulls finally got to me. It took nearly 50 games and four years, but the football team finally did it.

They got me to care.

I've always followed the team but never really cared whether they won by a point or lost by five.

But when the Bulls traveled to Arkansas in 2002 to play the Razorbacks and lost 39-1, I didn't exactly shed a tear.

When the team lost to the University of Connecticut two weekends ago, however, something missing finally showed up. Emotion.

I was upset when the entire receiving corps were in attendance. The Bulls may not get a bowl, but the season is not a total loss. At the game against conference favorite Louisville and playing the last two years.

The Mountaineers scored with nine minutes left in the first quarter and never looked back. The Bulls could only answer with field goals until a late fourth quarter touchdown.

Trailing 14-3, the Bulls came out in the second half with a solid 53-yard drive. But after an incomplete pass by quarterback Pat Julmist, the Bulls had to settle for another field goal. Coach Jim Leavitt said he had no answers for the team's inability to score.

"We had our chances," Leavitt said. "We just didn't execute well enough."

The Mountaineers offense proved too fast for the Bulls' defense in the second half. On their opening drive, quarterback Pat White ran 65 yards for a touchdown.

"Trailing 8-7, the Mountaineers offense proved too fast for the Bulls' defense in the second half. On their opening drive, quarterback Pat White ran 65 yards for a touchdown."

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The Crow's Nest is selling classified ads for the spring.

E-mail Advertising Manager Michelle Bocchio at mbocchin@mail.usf.

edu if you want more information or if you're ready to book your ad space!

USF loses home finale, still gets bowl bid

Team will play NC State in the Meineke Car Care Bowl on Dec. 31

by TAMMY BARTLETT
staff writer

The USF Bulls football team lost to Big East rival and conference leader West Virginia 28-13 Saturday night. It marked the first loss at home for the Bulls this season.

USF never led in the game, which was played in front of a record crowd of 45,274 at Raymond James Stadium. The Mountaineers scored with nine minutes left in the first quarter and never looked back. The Bulls could only answer with field goals until a late fourth quarter touchdown.

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http://www.stp.usf.edu/housing/
FOOTBALL

( FROM PAGE 6 )

Sarcasm aside, that would still be a success for a team that has never reached a bowl game. Fans shouldn’t care where the team goes as long as everybody wins. Jim Leavitt will find it easier to recruit, the players will get respect and accolades, and, most importantly, the students will have an excuse to go on a road trip and get drunk for a weekend. As if they need an excuse.

Maybe next season more people will not only go to the games but will also care if they win or lose. It will take a long time before the television cameras close up on the child in the stands crying his eyes out because the Bulls lost, but a little disappointment is a good thing.

And if we’re lucky, that disappointment will turn into excitement for next season.

They’ll amuse the Dickens into you

Versions of “A Christmas Carol” are sure to put you in the holiday spirit

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Other than “Romeo and Juliet” and “Cinderella,” no other classic story has ever been remade as many times as Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol.” And with good reason.

Even if you don’t celebrate Christmas, “A Christmas Carol” is a story about hope and good will towards all men. It’s a story about how it’s never too late for even the worst people to change. It’s also about redemption and is, at times, a little frightening. Perhaps that’s why this story has survived through the years and become a television staple in the winter months.

It seems as though everyone has taken a stab at this classic Christmas tale. There are cartoon versions like “Mickey’s Christmas Carol,” “Mr. Magoo’s Christmas Carol” and even a Looney Tunes “Christmas Carol.” The Jetsons and The Flintstones also had their own versions of the story. Whether it’s black and white, comedy, cartoon, drama or a musical, “A Christmas Carol” has been made a thousand times in a thousand different ways in a number of languages around the world.

Many critics would argue that the best version is 1951’s “Scrooge” starring Alastair Sim. Others contend that “A Christmas Carol” starring Sir Reginald Owen from 1938 is the best version. In fact, the Sir Reginald Owen version is used in a number of other Christmas movies, particularly the scene with Tiny Tim doing his “God bless us, everyone!” bit.

My top three favorite versions of this timeless tale actually venture on the silly side. During December, my VCR has been known to burn up 1988’s “Scrooged” starring Bill Murray, 1992’s “The Muppet Christmas Carol” and my number one pick, 1970’s “Scrooge” starring Albert Finney.

“Scrooged” is probably the least faithful version of the classic tale, and has a modern twist (albeit dated to the late 1980s). Murray portrays Scrooge as Frank Cross, a greedy and hateful (yet dry-witted) New York television VP. Instead of a humble and happy nephew Fred, he has a brother, John Murray. The movie has a super happy ending because in this version, Murray is still young enough to get the girl and be redeemed, too.

Anyone that appreciates Jim Henson’s puppetry or The Muppets on any level should definitely check out “The Muppet Christmas Carol.” Trust me — it’s not just kids stuff. With Michael Caine portraying the most English Scrooge I have ever seen in cinema, it’s a winner. And those of you who are familiar with The Muppets know how funny they can be for adults. For instance, Scrooge’s former employer in the story is called “Fezziwig.” In the Muppet version he is portrayed by Fozzy Bear as “Fozziwig.” With Gonzo narrating the film as Charles Dickens and Rizzo the Rat adding his two cents along the way, this is a fun family film that anyone can enjoy.

However, my personal favorite is one that most people don’t seem to know about. “Scrooge” starring Albert Finney is actually a musical — and a funny one at that. Finney’s Scrooge is just as bumbling as he is nasty, and the musical score is great. It was nominated for Best Song Score at the Academy Awards and won the 1971 Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture – Musical/Comedy. From Finney’s “I Like Life” song to scenes of him getting drunk on the milk of human kindness, this movie will have you rolling in seasonal laughter.

NEWS FROM STUDENT LIFE

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE
USF ST. PETERSBURG
FALL 2005 GRADUATES!

STUDENT LIFE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE PAID FOR BY STUDENT FEES
BULLS FINALE

In the fourth quarter, White again outran the Bulls for a 76-yard touchdown. That put West Virginia up 28-6 until a late fourth quarter touchdown by Bulls quarterback Carlton Hill. Julmiste had a less-than- impressive game, going 9 of 17 for 123 yards. Hill completed 10 of 21 passes for 98 yards. Running back Andre Hall was held under 100 yards for the second straight week, and finished with 75 yards on 20 carries. Despite the loss, Leavitt seemed satisfied with the team’s performance. "I thought our guys played hard," Leavitt said. "We didn't play good enough to win."

Because conference rival Louisville lost Saturday, the Bulls earned a bowl bid. "I haven't thought of bowls," Leavitt said. "I think it's very exciting. Four years of 1-0 football is a pretty fair accomplishment."

The game against West Virginia would have had more meaning had the Bulls defeated the University of Connecticut Huskies on Nov. 26 in East Hartford, Conn. A win would have meant the Bulls would be battling West Virginia for a Bowl Championship Series bid the following week at home. But the Bulls turned in one of its poorest performances of the season, watching their BCS dreams freeze up in the frigid Connecticut weather after a 15-10 loss.

Though the final score was close, the Bulls played sloppy much of the game. Running back Andre Hall was held to only 93 yards, after leading the Big East all season with 120.9 yard per game. Julmiste also had a tough game, completed only 10 of 26 for 168 yards and three interceptions, including one late in the game that stopped a drive that might have put the Bulls ahead 17-15.

In coach Leavitt’s weekly press conference Nov. 29, he continued to stress the need to move on. "The last game was disappointing. I don't think you ever forget a loss, but what are you going to do... be depressed all your life or move on?"

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