10-24-2011

Crow's Nest : 2011 : 10 : 24

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.usfsp.edu/crows_nest

Recommended Citation
https://digital.usfsp.edu/crows_nest/368

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University History: Campus Publications at Digital USFSP. It has been accepted for inclusion in Crow's Nest by an authorized administrator of Digital USFSP.
Scott announces new jobs

Gov. Rick Scott announced on Oct. 20 that biotech company IRX Therapeutics, Inc., would be moving from New York to St. Petersburg. He made the announcement in the USFSP Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

The relocation will bring 40 jobs to the area immediately, and 280 jobs in the next five years, with an average salary of $90,000, Scott said.

USF gave the company $50,000. The state gave IRX $600,000 from its Innovation Incentive Fund. The company was given $275,000 from Pinellas County and a $275,000 credit toward land owned by the City of St. Petersburg in the Dome Industrial Park.

St. Petersburg Mayor Bill Foster said the city is already home to several companies or research entities in fields like medical research and marine science—"collaborations that are going to spin off and multiply," he said. "To have IRX here is an incredible thing, an incredible service to the community."

IRX focuses on developing therapies to treat cancer and other diseases. Foster stressed the importance of economic development. "We have an opportunity to keep kids we've educated right here in the state of Florida," he said.

The Sept. 2011 Florida unemployment rate was 10.6 percent. It has decreased in the last 10 months, since being at 11.9 percent in January. Scott said the state's focus in higher education should be on STEM—science, technology, engineering and mathematics—because 15 of the 20 fastest growing job opportunities are in these areas.

Scott said the week before that students should focus more on degrees in STEM and less in fields like medical research and marine science. "We can't put accessible parking in a construction area," Trescastelli said about the loss of the six previous disabled parking spots. "It just isn't safe and here at USFSP, students, staff and visitors' safety is our top priority."

Trescastelli said the university must comply with code and that portion of the road meantime to help students access the library. Scott stopped by Nelson Poynter Library to announce the return of IRX Therapeutics to the Tampa Bay area.

By KEELY SHEEHAN
Editor-in-Chief

Disabled parking planned for July

By AIMEE ALEXANDER
Managing Editor

Construction on the Multipurpose Student Center eliminated six disabled parking spots in Parking Lot 1, the lot closest to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. However, plans are in place for three disabled parking spots in a new specialized parking area adjacent to the new student center. John Trescastelli, associate director of USFSP's Facilities Planning & Construction, confirmed three disabled parking spots located off of Third Street South would be available in July 2012.

"The parking spots will be designated for disabled parking only," Trescastelli said. The new spaces will also be closer than Lot 2 and there will be ramp access. There will also be an access road where the alley once was.

"We can't put accessible parking in a construction area," Trescastelli said about the loss of the six previous disabled parking spots. "It just isn't safe here at USFSP, students, staff and visitors' safety is our top priority."

Trescastelli said the university must comply with code and can't put people at risk in an unsafe construction site. Until construction on the specialized parking area is complete, accessing campus from the east side of Third Street South may still pose a challenge to students and visitors with mobility issues. A construction fence barricades a portion of the east side of the sidewalk and there is no designated ramp accessibility curb route to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

Barry McDowell, assistant director of Volunteer & Disability Services, said he wondered if something might be done in the meantime to help students access that portion of the road.

"What are some solutions?"

See PARKING, page 3

Scott stopped by Nelson Poynter Library to announce the return of IRX Therapeutics to the Tampa Bay area.
DNA lectures kick off with genome talk

By SABRINA ALDRIDGE
Contributing Writer

Dr. Gary Litman, vice chairman of Pediatrics at USF Health, and distinguished university professor, spoke to a crowd about DNA with the lecture The Human Genome: 10 years and 247 Days. Later, the first of five lectures celebrating the 10th anniversary of the human genome took place at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library on Oct. 20.

Litman discussed the history of the Human Genome Project, and the impact of DNA and the genomics development has had on science. It’s been 10 years since the first publication of the analysis of the human in two leading science magazines. Litman said human bodies consist of 3 billion building blocks and roughly 27,000 genes that are the genetic blueprint for each individual.

The genome of each individual is different and unique except for identical twins or cloned organisms, he said.

The Human Genome Project began in 1990 with many years of work at the Department of Energy and the National Institute of Health. The objective of the project was to discover what comprises the genetic makeup of the human species. Surprisingly only 2 percent of the genome encodes proteins of which insulin and hemoglobin are examples, Litman said. He spoke about “the importance of finding what diseases are linked to what genes.” He also said several hundred aren’t understood at all and that about 50 percent are repetitive in what he called a “junk area,” but many cancers arise from this “junk area.”

“Some 2,500 to 3,000 genes can be affected by cancer and that 80 percent are acquired by say the environment, 10 percent are inherited, and another 10 percent are a mixture of inherited genes and germ line combo,” Litman said.

Litman also discussed the relationship between humans and other plants and animals, and how alike many species are. For example, the mouse and the fruit fly have just 5,000 different genes.

“At the very least, the Human Genome Project has revolutionized how we approach fundamental questions in biology and medicine,” he said.

“How we’ve evolved is fascinating and to know people are working on this is exciting,” said biology major Steven Navarro.

“We are different by just a small percent and the more we understand we may one day possibly cure cancer.”

The second Festival of the Genome lecture, Dali and Science: A Paraノiac Universe with Peter Tush, curator of education at the Dali Museum, takes place on Oct. 27 at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. The Festival Genome events are open to the public. The reception starts at 6 p.m. and lecture starts at 7 p.m.
Candidates talk red light cameras, pier renovations

COUNCIL, continued from front page

with $2 million coming from tour-
ism, said. “The least is $100,000 and whatever revenue is leftover after the bills are paid goes to the city’s general fund.”

Brent Hatley is running against incumbent Bill Dudley in District 3.

“Coach Dudley taught me his-
tory and how to drive when I was in high school,” Newton said. “I only know how to do one of those well still—history.”

Dudley responded to the pos-
sibility of a new stadium with his own solution.

“We should turn [Tropicana Field] into a convention center since St. Petersburg no longer has one,” Dudley said. “There are ideas out there.”

District 5 council member Steve Kornell is running for re-
election. His opponent had to drop out for health reasons, but Kornell said he still needs voters to turn out so they don’t have to re-do the election.

“We have to decide, how much is baseball worth?” Kornell said.

“The public should be involved and they should have a voice and we should have a referendum.”

Candidates were asked if they would support a public referendum on The Pier and its new design competition. The majority of can-
didates stated they would want a referendum on The Pier.

“If public funds are involved, then the public should have a voice,” Gerdes said.

District 7 newcomer Gershom Faulkner spent a lot of time attacking opponent and incumbent Wengay Newton.

“My opponent hasn’t done enough,” Faulkner said. “He isn’t working towards solutions.”

“You don’t get a lot of answers with my opponent, just a lot of rhetoric,” Newton said.

Newton commented on the is-
sue of a referendum on The Pier.

“I am not against development or designers,” Newton said. “But we never had a vote in the cham-
er that gave the public a voice and that is wrong.”

In his closing statement, Hat-
ley brought up red light cameras, which were recently installed throughout St. Petersburg.

I want to put an end to red light cameras,” Dudley said. “They are unconstitutional.”

Dudley responded in his closing statement. “Hatley is wrong,” he said. “The cameras are constitutional.”

“I voted no on the red light cameras and would vote that way again,” Dudley said about a recent incident he wit-
tnessed on 22nd Avenue N. and Fourth Street where there are red light cameras.

“It was a situation that if a cop had been there, they wouldn’t have given him a ticket,” Kornell said.

“Due to a delay in the approval purchasing for voting software the elections will have to be delayed another week (the exact day has yet to be determined),” she wrote.

Portée deferred all questions regarding the delay to Parish, who initially refused to comment on the situation.

The Crow’s Nest weekly story deadline is Saturday night. When asked if the SG website had also not been updated to reflect the delayed election, Parish said he would respond to questions via email if she had time.

Parish has traditionally re-
fused face-to-face or telephone interviews with the press, instead preferring to answer questions through email.

“I definitely have words for this topic,” she later wrote. She did not respond to an email ask-
ing for clarification by press time.

As of Saturday night, the SG website had also not been updated to reflect the delayed election.

Senate President April Parsions was briefed on the situation by the legislative branch and was told the decision to delay the election was made to save $600 by running the election concurrently with USF Tampas midterm election.

The Senate hopes to fill 20 opens seats during the midterm election. If all 22 candidates com-
plete the required paperwork by the new deadline, Oct. 26, the election will be competitive. Oth-
ewise, it is unlikely that any can-
didate will lose his or her bid for a seat.

news@crownsneststpete.com
600 Block shows its style with fashion show

By TAYLOR GAUDENS
Life Editor

From painted shirts and plants to leather and sparkle, the fashion show on the 600 Block on Oct. 21 displayed almost every type of new look. Crowd-pleasing styles included everything from vintage, trendy sequins and sparkles to tribal feathers and fringe.

The participating shops included Bijou's, Boutique, Eugenia Woods, Cozette's Boutique, Misred Outfitters, The Trunk and Ramblin' Rose Upcycle.

Folding chairs lined the narrow runway, Crispil Arcade, and a disc jockey provided live music for the runway show. Members of the crowd danced before the show began.

The owner of Misred Outfitters, Sara Stonecipher, prepared for the event for weeks. She said the store had "lots of help" leading up to the night of the fashion show. From the models to the fashion, Stonecipher said she plans "well in advance." Just 20 minutes after the event, some of the fashion merchandise the models wore had already sold. Her help included almost everyone on the block, who worked together to pull off the show. Stonecipher said she starts planning for the next event as soon as they complete one.

"I'm kind of a control freak," she said.

Stonecipher says she plans to participate in the block's future fashion show events. The owner of Ramblin' Rose Upcycle, Rosie Williams, said she spent the last couple of weeks planning the show. She focused on finding models "with the best energy" for her showcased pieces. Looks included recycled materials such as curtains and sheets, and natural products like plants to tie the clothing together.

Williams said her store often hosts art events. Next month, it will host a craft market, which will consist of handmade crafts—perfect gifts for the holiday season.

Events planned for Wellness Week

By JANE MCINNIS
Contributing Writer

Flu shots, beginner boot camp and make-your-own stress balls are some of the events that will be offered during Wellness Week at USFSP. The three-day event, which begins Oct. 25, returns to campus every spring and fall semester during a particularly taxing time of year—midsemester.

[Welness Week] tends to be when students feel really stressed," said Leila Durr, a psychologist at the Health and Wellness Center.

The focus of Wellness Week this semester will be on stress relief, and aims to show students alternative, healthy ways to deal with stress.

"Boot Camp for Beginners" will be led by instructors from the fitness center, which "introduces the value of doing exercise to de-stress," Durr said.

The exercise hour starts at 11 a.m. on Harborside Lawn and students should bring a towel or mat, comfortable clothes and water.

Another addition to Wellness Week is the presence of the Clothesline Project. Durr said it will be "hard to miss" the Clothesline Project on display at Harborside Lawn on Oct. 26. The Clothesline Project comes from Community Action Stops Abuse—C.A.S.A.—a domestic violence center based in St. Petersburg.

The display will feature a clothesline draped with shirts illustrated by people affected directly or indirectly by domestic abuse. Some shirts convey empowerment, while others show pain.

"They tend to be really powerful or intense," Durr said. "The ones made by kids are more heart wrenching at times."

The Clothesline Project will be on display from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Oct. 27, the wellness staff will have a table set up for assembling stress balls at the Harborside fountain. A tutorial will be provided along with materials—balloons and sand.

In addition to scheduled events, health services will be provided for students during Wellness Week.

Flu vaccines will be administered in the Davis Lobby on Oct. 25 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. With health insurance the vaccine is free, for students without coverage it's a $29.99 fee.

Youth Education Services will be offering free HIV Screening tests Thursday in Bayboro Hall.

Flu shots, beginner boot camp and make-your-own stress balls are some of the events that will be offered during Wellness Week at USFSP. The three-day event, which begins Oct. 25, returns to campus every spring and fall semester during a particularly taxing time of year—midsemester.

"[Wellness Week] tends to be when students feel really stressed," said Leila Durr, a psychologist at the Health and Wellness Center.

The focus of Wellness Week this semester will be on stress relief, and aims to show students alternative, healthy ways to deal with stress.

"Boot Camp for Beginners" will be led by instructors from the fitness center, which "introduces the value of doing exercise to de-stress," Durr said.

The exercise hour starts at 11 a.m. on Harborside Lawn and students should bring a towel or mat, comfortable clothes and water.

Another addition to Wellness Week is the presence of the Clothesline Project. Durr said it will be "hard to miss" the Clothesline Project on display at Harborside Lawn on Oct. 26. The Clothesline Project comes from Community Action Stops Abuse—C.A.S.A.—a domestic violence center based in St. Petersburg.

The display will feature a clothesline draped with shirts illustrated by people affected directly or indirectly by domestic abuse. Some shirts convey empowerment, while others show pain.

"They tend to be really powerful or intense," Durr said. "The ones made by kids are more heart wrenching at times."

The Clothesline Project will be on display from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Oct. 27, the wellness staff will have a table set up for assembling stress balls at the Harborside fountain. A tutorial will be provided along with materials—balloons and sand.

In addition to scheduled events, health services will be provided for students during Wellness Week.

Flu vaccines will be administered in the Davis Lobby on Oct. 25 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. With health insurance the vaccine is free, for students without coverage it's a $29.99 fee.

Youth Education Services will be offering free HIV Screening tests Thursday in Bayboro Hall.

Students can show up to room 117 to receive testing for a cotton swab test. Results will be available within weeks. Testing will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Wellness Screenings, a survey done with paper and pencil, will be offered on two days: Tuesday, Oct. 25 at the Bayboro Breezeway from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 27 at the Harborside fountain from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Students can check out the Clothesline display as little or as much as they want," Durr said.

“And I mean, how long does it take to make a stress ball?”
Get spooked in St. Pete

By AMANDA PRETULAC
Arts Editor

Upcoming Halloween events on campus and around downtown St. Petersburg prove you can have as much fun celebrating the holiday as an adult. Costume contests, spooky ghost tours and Halloween-grams are just a few ways to celebrate the holiday in the area.

Ghost Tours of Downtown Saint Petersburg
Hooker Tea Co. & Café
300 Beach Dr. NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Get your friends together for a candlelight ghost tour of St. Petersburg on any night at 8 p.m. up until Halloween. Arrive 15 minutes early and remember to wear comfortable walking shoes since the tour lasts 90 minutes.

Purchase tickets at the Hooker Tea Co. & Café. It’s suggested you purchase them before the tour, but it is not required. Cameras are recommended because you never know what you may see during the night.

For more information and ticket prices, visit www.ghosttour.net/spfaqs.html.

Send a boo-gram to a fellow resident
Residence Hall One

The Residence Hall Association is allowing students to send a bag of Halloween treats for $1 to friends in Residence Hall One. The event takes place on Oct. 25 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Oct. 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Halloween party and costume contest
Poynter Corner
USFSP Nelson Poynter Memorial Library

Dress up in your best costume and attend the Second Annual Halloween Party and Costume Contest at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library on Oct. 31. Visit the library early dressed in costume and have your photo taken. Photos will go into a display case where students and faculty vote on the best costumes. This includes best female student costume, best male student costume, and best faculty/staff costume.

Voting begins at 2 p.m. The party runs from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Grind will cater the event. Winners of the contest will be notified by email.

Residence Hall Association Presents: Halloween Party – RHO Style
Residence Hall One

Join your friends in the Residence Hall courtyard for a Halloween party on Oct. 31 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the event and costumes are suggested since there will be a costume contest.

Contest categories include: scary, cute, original, groups of 3 or more, and superheroes. Other activities at the event include pumpkin painting and a mummy-wrapping contest. RSVP your spot on the Facebook event page.

No-Bull Dance Troupe Presents: A Night Out With Vampires
Harbor Hall

The No-Bull Dance Troupe is teaming up with the Criminology Student Association and the Grappling Club to bring you a Halloween dance on Oct. 31 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. The theme of the night will be Roman’s Lair: A Vampire’s Revenge.

“The dance team will be performing at the event,” said Sarah Richardson, style coordinator of the No-Bull Dance Troupe. Costumes are recommended for the event, but not required. “The event will be a Halloween ball if you will.” Free food will be available in addition to the live performances. RSVP on the event’s Facebook page.

Residence Hall Association Presents: Halloween Party – RHO Style
Residence Hall One

Join your friends in the Residence Hall courtyard for a Halloween party on Oct. 31 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the event and costumes are suggested since there will be a costume contest.

Contest categories include: scary, cute, original, groups of 3 or more, and superheroes. Other activities at the event include pumpkin painting and a mummy-wrapping contest. RSVP your spot on the Facebook event page.

No-Bull Dance Troupe Presents: A Night Out With Vampires
Harbor Hall

The No-Bull Dance Troupe is teaming up with the Criminology Student Association and the Grappling Club to bring you a Halloween dance on Oct. 31 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. The theme of the night will be Roman’s Lair: A Vampire’s Revenge.

“The dance team will be performing at the event,” said Sarah Richardson, style coordinator of the No-Bull Dance Troupe. Costumes are recommended for the event, but not required. “The event will be a Halloween ball if you will.” Free food will be available in addition to the live performances. RSVP on the event’s Facebook page.

Residence Hall Association Presents: Halloween Party – RHO Style
Residence Hall One

Join your friends in the Residence Hall courtyard for a Halloween party on Oct. 31 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the event and costumes are suggested since there will be a costume contest.

Contest categories include: scary, cute, original, groups of 3 or more, and superheroes. Other activities at the event include pumpkin painting and a mummy-wrapping contest. RSVP your spot on the Facebook event page.

No-Bull Dance Troupe Presents: A Night Out With Vampires
Harbor Hall

The No-Bull Dance Troupe is teaming up with the Criminology Student Association and the Grappling Club to bring you a Halloween dance on Oct. 31 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. The theme of the night will be Roman’s Lair: A Vampire’s Revenge.

“The dance team will be performing at the event,” said Sarah Richardson, style coordinator of the No-Bull Dance Troupe. Costumes are recommended for the event, but not required. “The event will be a Halloween ball if you will.” Free food will be available in addition to the live performances. RSVP on the event’s Facebook page.

Residence Hall Association Presents: Halloween Party – RHO Style
Residence Hall One

Join your friends in the Residence Hall courtyard for a Halloween party on Oct. 31 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the event and costumes are suggested since there will be a costume contest.

Contest categories include: scary, cute, original, groups of 3 or more, and superheroes. Other activities at the event include pumpkin painting and a mummy-wrapping contest. RSVP your spot on the Facebook event page.

No-Bull Dance Troupe Presents: A Night Out With Vampires
Harbor Hall

The No-Bull Dance Troupe is teaming up with the Criminology Student Association and the Grappling Club to bring you a Halloween dance on Oct. 31 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. The theme of the night will be Roman’s Lair: A Vampire’s Revenge.

“The dance team will be performing at the event,” said Sarah Richardson, style coordinator of the No-Bull Dance Troupe. Costumes are recommended for the event, but not required. “The event will be a Halloween ball if you will.” Free food will be available in addition to the live performances. RSVP on the event’s Facebook page.
USF loses third straight, falls to Cincinnati, 37-34

By TOM CHANG
Contributing Writer

The Cincinnati Bearcats overcame a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter handing the USF Bulls their third straight Big East Conference loss, 37-34, during homecoming week. Bearcats quarterback Zach Collaros ran for the go-ahead 2-yard score with 12 seconds left to play.

“It went all down to the wire,” said head coach Skip Holtz. “I said earlier in the week, it’s almost eerie how similar these two teams are. We look at quarterbacks, the style of offense play and total yards. There were so many similar things in this game. I give Cincinnati a lot of credit. They made the plays they had to going down the stretch with the touchdown reception there.”

Collaros accounted for five of the six scoring plays, throwing for three touchdowns and running in for two passing for 389 yards and running for 21 yards. Bearcats running back Isaiah Pead ran for 79 yards from 22 carries.

Bulls quarterback B.J. Daniels threw for 409 yards completing 31 out of 47 passes and three scores. Daniels also accounted for the bulk of the Bulls’ running game, rushing for 54 yards from 15 carries. Daniels’ 10-yard scoring pass to receiver Andre Davis put the Bulls ahead 34-30 with 1:27 remaining. But was the defense that could not stop the onslaught from the Bearcats offense and their own defensive miscues from penalties.

For the second week in a row, the Bulls were plagued with penalties running scoring drives and shorting the field for opposing offenses. The Bulls were penalized 10 times for 109 yards. They made plays. They kept plays alive. One of the plays we were in man coverage, the guy squawks out the backdoor for 30 or 40-yards. It is hard to stay on a guy for that long a time,” said defensive coordinator Mark Snyder. “We had way too many roughing the quarter-back calls. We have to look back at the film. Last week there were some good calls, but all I know it has to stop the personal fouls. We made them beat us with the big plays and they did.”

Deonte Welch led all Bulls receivers catching 5 passes for 130 yards. Sterling Griffin contributed 8 catches for 73 yards and a touchdown.

“It was an opportunity for me to step up to make big plays because a few of our receivers were out,” Welch said. “I just played my role in stepping up.”

Andrews Shields and Demetri Murray also contributed to scores. “Both teams played hard,” said offensive coordinator Todd Fitch. “You hate to come off the short end, but it was a really good college football game. A lot of mistakes were made in the first half by both teams, but a lot of things clicked as well. My heart breaks for the players here.”

Kicker Maikon Bonani was 2-for-2 in field goals, but a botched snap prevented a third. One of the field goals could have been a touchdown before the end of the half when Daniels was stopped for no gain on second-and-goal. The Bulls let the clock run down to three seconds before calling a time-out to kick the game-tying field goal. The game was tied at 10 at the half. The Bulls will go on another bye week before traveling to Rutgers to face the Scarlet Knights on Nov. 5.

life@crowsneststpete.com

Big East losing Pitt and Syracuse, conference future in question

By TOM CHANG
Contributing Writer

The news of Pittsburgh and Syracuse departing the Big East Conference for the Atlantic Coast Conference has left USF wondering its NCAA future. The Big East is looking to fulfill a gap securing its NCAA future. The Big East is left with six football members: Louisville, Cincinnati, West Virginia, Rutgers, Connecticut and USF. Notre Dame and West Virginia are possible replacements into the Big 12 conference.

Standing in the way of those plans is the current merger plan from the Mountain West Conference and Conference USA to create a 22-team league in football only, with two divisions and a conference championship game. Boise State and Air Force are in the MWC while UCF, SMU and Houston are in Conference USA.

The Big East is left with six football members: Louisville, Cincinnati, West Virginia, Rutgers, Connecticut and USF. Notre Dame is football-independent but supports the Big East in other sports.

Securing the vote for more stringent exit fees could possibly give the potential new candidates an incentive to join the Big East as Boise State, Air Force and Navy had prior reservations in joining the conference.

Also standing in the way of the plans are the rumors of existing Big East programs potentially jumping off the sinking ship. Louisville and West Virginia are possible replacements into the Big 12 since losing Missouri. Connecticut and Rutgers are rumored to be looking into the ACC.

life@crowsneststpete.com

HANSON Live in Concert!

October 28th, 2011
State Theatre
(687 Central Ave, Downtown St. Pete)

Buy tickets at
www.daddykool.com or at Daddy Kool Records
(right across the street from the venue!)

www.statemedia.com for more information

opinion
Fantasy football: Bye week edition

By HANNAH ULM
Contributing Writer

Bye weeks are a tricky thing. If you don’t plan for them, you’re probably screwed. If you notice your opponents who don’t plan for them, you have the opportunity to take advantage of their foolishness. You’ll know which category you’re in soon.

I’m a mixture of both. Originally I had it all figured out. Then I forgot to consider my bye week players as I made trades and dropped some of my drafters.

Now I’m facing a week without my three best players and without backups that make me feel comfortable. I’m hoping to avoid my second loss of the season, and luckily my opponent’s team isn’t looking too hot either (sorry, dad). I am also under the assumption that my opponent’s team isn’t looking too hot either (sorry, dad).

If you find yourself in a sticky bye week situation, try to craftily find your best options. I needed to pick up two guys to fill in for my star players. Of course I evaluated who was available, who the week seven matchups were and my overall preference for the players. I landed on San Diego WR Malcolm Floyd and Miami WR Davone Bess. Here’s why:

Floyd: I like Malcolm Floyd. Yes, he backs up Vincent Jackson and Antonio Gates, but Philip Rivers sends some looks his way too. He’s overlooked by the opposing offenses due to the star talent around him and I’m hoping his under-the-radar nature will pay off this week when the Chargers face the top-rated Jets D.

Bess: Again, not the player defenses usually focus on in Miami. But Brandon Marshall, Reggie Bush and Daniel Thomas are all nursing injuries. When he gets the opportunity, Bess can be a playmaker. Yes, Miami sucks. But someone on the team will put up some fantasy points and I think Davone’s the Bess option (ha, pun intended).

Basically I’m crossing my fingers and hoping these backup players have breakout weeks while Wes Welker, LeSean McCoy and Fred Jackson are sipping margaritas by some luxurious pool. That is what players do on their bye weeks right? By the time you read this you’ll know whether my strategy worked, so I’ll go ahead and anticipate all the congratulatory comments.

life@crowsneststpete.com
editorial

The Internet IQ and you

Your brain is changing with every click of the mouse

When’s the last time you thought about how you think?

Unless you’re a professional philosopher or have time to unplug from the culture shock of your daily life for a few moments a day, the answer is probably never. But that could be a tremendous oversight.

Socrates believed that as people became reliant on writing and reading, they would become less dependent on their own memories. He was right. But the benefits of the written word—rapid, widespread transmission of information that can outline the writer—outweighed the loss of those values, and the oral culture was lost to the print culture.

Mirroring that transition, digital networks and the Internet are removing books, and the written word, from their once dominant position as the technology most used to spread information. Newspaper circulation is down 27 percent from last year, e-book sales are up (30 percent of Steig Larsson’s “The Girl Who Kicked the Hornets Nest” sold in the U.S. in 2010 were digital), and U.S. Internet usage increased over 3 percent, meaning a whopping 77.3 percent of the nation is online.

And you better believe our minds are shifting and mutating with every click of the mouse.

Many people believe that the Internet has had a negative but a positive effect on the human condition. The Pew Research Center polled 370 Internet experts and found that 76 percent of them believed that Internet use has enhanced human intelligence.

But the effects might be subtler. A study released by the Proceedings of Royal Society B: Biological Sciences last week showed found a direct link between the amount of Facebook friends a person has and the size of certain areas of his or her brain—specifically the parts linked to social interaction, memory and autism.

In his book, “The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains,” Nicholas Carr writes about how, after a week of daily surfing, he can no longer immerse himself in a book. He finds his mind wandering after a page or two. He “missed [his] old brain,” said Carr. He writes about how the Internet has made life easy—we can pay our bills, check out bank statements, find almost any information we want without having to search stacks of books—but these benefits come at a cost.

He cited a study of 6,000 kids who grew up using the Web. They read differently than older generations, the study found. Instead of reading from left to right and top to bottom, they scan the pages for interesting information. The study didn’t determine if this was a good or a bad thing—that wouldn’t be scientific—but for those who value good old-fashioned reading, the message seems dire.

Most of us wouldn’t know the difference, however, since we grew up using the Internet. When AOL hit its peak subscriber rate in the early 2000s, most freshmen were less than 10 years old. We couldn’t tell if the Internet has personally changed the way we think, because we can’t remember a time when we didn’t have it in our living rooms, bedrooms and home offices. All we can do is know that a change has occurred, and we are the first generation not to feel it.

Has the Internet changed society for the better? For the worse? Nobody knows yet, and they might never find out. Perhaps we’ll become so reliant on our use of it that we will effectively become cyborgs, living in symbiosis with mechanical devices.

Whether that’s a bad thing or not, we’ll leave it up to the philosophers.

See other notes

quotes and notes

Quote of the week

“Those who do not learn from the past are destined to repeat it.”
— Napoleon

Throwback

Eighty-two years ago, on Oct. 24, 1929, the stock market took a devastating crash in what became known as “Black Thursday.” A similar crash happened on the same day in 2008. Also, On Oct. 24, 2005, African-American civil rights activist Rosa Parks was born. My natural causes at the age of 92.

Trends

The Crow’s Nest will accept and publish, in print or online, letters to the editor at the discretion of the editor-in-chief.

Letters to the editor must meet general standards for accuracy of facts and language that is offensive or libelous in nature. Anonymous letters to the editor will not be accepted for publication.

Email your submissions to editorials@crownsnestpette.com.

We want to hear from you

editorials@crownsnestpette.com

How much can one person talk endlessly about themselves and what they are doing? Apparently 200 million people, according to Twitter stats. Unless a paycheck is involved, this faux importance of daily existence seems like an elaborate waste of time.

For me, the old adage “quality over quantity” is in direct conflict with the fact that I tweet every day. And all of this scalloped potato fanfare is for what? Or who?

How can such talk end up being irrelevant information.

And all of this scalloped potato fare is for what? Or who?

How much can one person talk endlessly about themselves and what they are doing? Apparently 200 million people, according to Twitter stats. Unless a paycheck is involved, this faux importance of daily existence seems like an elaborate waste of time.

For me, the old adage “quality over quantity” is in direct conflict with the fact that I tweet every day. And all of this scalloped potato fanfare is for what? Or who?

How much can one person talk endlessly about themselves and what they are doing? Apparently 200 million people, according to Twitter stats. Unless a paycheck is involved, this faux importance of daily existence seems like an elaborate waste of time.

For me, the old adage “quality over quantity” is in direct conflict with the fact that I tweet every day. And all of this scalloped potato fanfare is for what? Or who?

How much can one person talk endlessly about themselves and what they are doing? Apparently 200 million people, according to Twitter stats. Unless a paycheck is involved, this faux importance of daily existence seems like an elaborate waste of time.

For me, the old adage “quality over quantity” is in direct conflict with the fact that I tweet every day. And all of this scalloped potato fanfare is for what? Or who?

How much can one person talk endlessly about themselves and what they are doing? Apparently 200 million people, according to Twitter stats. Unless a paycheck is involved, this faux importance of daily existence seems like an elaborate waste of time.

For me, the old adage “quality over quantity” is in direct conflict with the fact that I tweet every day. And all of this scalloped potato fanfare is for what? Or who?
USFSP celebrates Homecoming 2011

By DAWN-MARIE PARKER
Contributing Writer

Teams compete in lip sync showdown

Two teams battled it out at the lip-sync contest during USFSP's Homecoming week celebration. Originally thought to be five teams competing, the final two teams took the stage to try their hand at lip-syncing like the pros.

The first group for the Oct. 19 event was a two-girl ensemble lip-syncing to “Love the Way you Lie” by Eminem and Rihanna. The second group consisted of six students, four from the NoBull Dance Troupe. They opened with “Party Startin’” by Michael Jackson and meshed into songs from the 90s such as “Say My Name” by Destiny’s Child. They ended with “Wop” by J. Dash.

The show took place at the Campus Activities Center and audience members were served pizza and pasta during intermission. After the contest, the floor was open to anyone who wanted to perform for a live audience.

The Harborside Activities Board planned the event and recruited students to participate. Maria Almeida, freshman criminology major and member of the Harborside Activities Board, came to the event to support HAB.

“It turns out they needed another judge and I was happy to do it.”

The food they provided was delicious; the hot chocolate was comforting,” said Jody Marley, freshman pre-med major.

The show took place at the Campus Activities Center and audience members were served pizza and pasta during intermission. After the contest, the floor was open to anyone who wanted to perform for a live audience.

The Harborside Activities Board planned the event and recruited students to participate. Maria Almeida, freshman criminology major and member of the Harborside Activities Board, came to the event to support HAB.

“It turns out they needed another judge and I was happy to do it.”

Checking out more photos from Homecoming online. Follow the code or visit www.crownsneststpete.com.