Due to budget cuts and rising operational costs, USF will end its dial-up Internet service on June 30, 2005.

The computing directors of the university, who work in Academic Computing, Information Technologies and the Health Sciences, decided a few months ago that the service could no longer be provided. E-mails were sent to subscribers notifying them of the cancellation.

The service, which began July 2002, was originally intended to provide the Internet to the university's students, faculty and staff at a reasonable price. The service was $1.99 a month. Most Internet services cost anywhere between $8.00 and $50.00 a month.

But as the pressure to reduce university costs increased, it became more and more evident that the service was to end, said Christopher Akin, assistant director for University Computer Systems. Because the service's cancellation, about 150 individuals currently use the service.

About 110 of those users are at the USF St. Petersburg Campus.

So far, Akin has seen only three formal complaints regarding the cancellation. He said the university has also received phone calls thanking it for having provided such a service at a reasonable cost.

Refunds will be provided to all who had a subscription past the ending date. It is believed that all refunds will be completed by July 30, 2005.

Merri Schaffner, the help-desk manager in Tampa, said that the cancellation process has been smooth, and that the school is helping subscribers find new services.

"On the University web page, there is a link for Roadrunner and Verizon DSL, the number of subscribers to USF Basic has dwindled to the point where the service has been losing money.

At its peak, USF Basic had over 3,000 subscribers. Approximately 1,000-1,100 individuals currently use the service, a figure that has started shrinking due to the service's cancellation. About 110 of those users are at the USF St. Petersburg Campus.

But as the pressure to reduce university costs increased, it became more and more evident that the service was to end, said Christopher Akin, assistant director for University Computer Systems. Because the service's cancellation was deteriorating and the cost of maintaining was rising, the program was losing money than it was earning.

"We tried to offer this so it would be cost-effective," Akin said. "We kept on trying to reduce all costs, but there are certain levels where you can't reduce anymore!"

And with the increasing popularity broadband providers such as Roadrunner and Verizon DSL, the number of subscribers to USF Basic has dwindled to the point where the service has been losing money.

USF basic dial-up service to end in June

Donald Wolf
Staff Writer

More than 150 community leaders, staff and faculty gathered March 30 to celebrate the groundbreaking ceremony for the first USF St. Petersburg residence hall.

The event, held in the courtyard between the Snell and Williams houses, featured speeches by USF President Judy Genshaft, Regional Chancellor Karen A. White, St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker and Student Government President Tom Piccolo.

The 304-bed facility will be located on the corner of Second Street and Fifth Avenue South. Estimated to cost $18 million, the seven-story building will offer students apartment-style living and is scheduled for completion in Fall 2006.

Unlike traditional dormitories, 80 out of the 95 apartment suites will offer private bedrooms and one bathroom for every two students. Each suite will also have a kitchen. All student rooms and apartments will be completely furnished and include all utilities, electricity, water, heat and air conditioning, local telephone service, high-speed internet and cable TV.

The hall is set to open Fall 2006.
Daylight-savings causes confusion for University of Arizona students

Danielle Rideau
Arizona Daily Wildcat (University of Arizona)

TUCSON, Ariz. - Spring ahead, fall back — except for Arizona.

At 3 a.m. Sunday April 3, clocks around the nation set ahead by one hour, which means students in Arizona have to adjust their mental clock when calling a different time zone.

For most of the country, spring is when the world changes its clocks to daylight savings time from standard time, according to a Web site sponsored by the National Institute for Standards and Technology.

Daylight-savings time, or "summer time," in many parts of the world was adopted to "make better use of daylight." This Web site stated, "We change our clocks during the summer months to move and hour of daylight from the morning to the evening."

Many states observed their own versions of daylight savings time, making travel and the national timekeeper's job confusing, until Congress passed the Uniform Time Act of 1966, according to the site.

The Uniform Time Act established a system that made daylight-savings time consistent throughout the country, and states wishing to be exempt would have to pass a separate state law, the site stated. In addition to Arizona, residents of Indiana and Hawaii set their clocks ahead by one hour.

See TIME Page 6

Former USF professor still helping tsunami victims

Irena Milasinos
Features Editor

Three months after the tsunami hit South and Southeast Asia, former USF geography professor Henry Aruffo still resides in Phuket, Thailand. And he's still helping.

When the tsunami hit on Dec. 26, Aruffo watched people running to higher ground as a 20-foot wave pounded the beach. Within 15 minutes, three enormous waves had pounded the shoreline and destroyed Phuket, where Aruffo, who is director of the Coral Reef Institute in Thailand, has lived since July 2003.

Triggered by a 9.0-magnitude quake off the coast of Sumatra, the tsunami has killed thousands of people in more than 11 countries in South and Southeast Asia. As of Feb. 22, government agencies and the United Nations reported that the death toll stood at 168,752, with 127,294 people listed as missing.

From the outset, Aruffo was part of a recovery team that pulled bodies from two basement stores under a shopping center. He dove into Patong Bay and Kats Bay to limit the oil and gas leaking out of tourist and fishing boats that had sank.

Now Aruffo volunteers 60 to 70 hours a week organizing and participating in underwater clean-ups and coral reconstruction and repair. And he has suffered for his efforts.

He contracted an ear infection in January after he dived into fetid waters to recover dead bodies. In early March, Aruffo contracted Dengue fever when a mosquito bit him while he was working illegally in the bay of Phuket.

Aruffo has been helping a large group of Burmese workers who are hiding in the hills, working 12 hours a day for $5. Most of the workers are illegal immigrants who have not found work in Burma because of the tsunami.

Since they do not have papers to be in Thailand, they are not eligible for government assistance and could be deported to Burma, one of the most repressive military governments in the world," Aruffo said.

Aruffo has been swimming dozens of bags of rice into the hills, avoiding police roadblocks along the way. "I don't give a damn for breaking the laws as much as I care about people eating," Aruffo said.

Aruffo said it's getting harder to help people in Phuket because the Thai government wants all volunteers to work per month, which cost $125 a month. This has driven many people out of the area, Aruffo said.

"Life has been getting better for the people in Phuket. Aruffo said, but signs remain posted on walls and in newspapers for about 600 missing people.

"Looking at the postcards of little children smiling and the pics from their parents is a hard thing to do and something that depresses people daily," Aruffo said.

Aruffo is severely depressed, cannot sleep and has nightmares when he does sleep.

In the past three months since the tsunami, I have changed from a fun-loving person to a person who is depressed," Aruffo said.

"I have changed from a fun-loving person who wanted to come up with solutions in the face of unexpected events to someone who is dealing firsthand with the tsunami's victims."

Aruffo said is severely depressed, cannot sleep and has nightmares when he does sleep.

In the past three months since the tsunami, I have changed from a fun-loving person to a person who is depressed," Aruffo said.

Aruffo said: "Life will never really be the same as before," he said.

BriefMe

Sixty students vote for unopposed Student Government offices

By Kristi A. Martinez

The candidates for Student Government offices were guaranteed their positions in another unopposed election that ran from March 28 through 31.

One candidate ran for each of the positions, which include president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. The four-day election attracted 60 voters.

The current Student Government president Tom Piccolo, 21, was re-elected. Piccolo has been president since last fall. Piccolo has also served as treasurer and as a representative since he joined Student Government in Fall 2001. He is a senior majoring in economics and business management.

Current treasurer Chris Koening, who has been in office since fall, was also re-elected. Koening, 20, is majoring in political science.

Senior Macdonald, who has been a Student Government representative for three semesters, Junior Alyce Benjamin, 21, will run unopposed for secretary. Benjamin, a psychology major, has been a representative for three semesters.

The four-day election took place on May 1 and will hold their positions until April 30 of next year.

Campus to choose new student life director

Kristie A. Martinez
Editor

USF St. Petersburg officials hope to choose a new director of student life by the end of April. The school started a nationwide search for the new director in January.

Until November of last year, Nancy Coscia served as the university's director of student life. Since then, Jim Spell, fitness center program specialist and waterfront coordinator, has been the acting director of student life.

Three candidates for the position visited the campus on March 20, 31 and April 1 for a series of interviews with students, administrators and staff.

Search committee director Katherine McKay, who is also the director of the Counseling and Career Center, said she and the rest of the committee members will make recommendations about the three candidates to Regional Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Charles Brown by early April. Brown will choose the new student life director by the end of the month and the director will assume the position ideally over the summer, McKay said.

The director of student life would be responsible for everything falling under student life, which includes the Campus Activities Center, the fitness center, the waterfront and student clubs. He or she would manage USF St. Petersburg's activity and service fee budget, which funds all student life departments and programs. The student life director would also supervise student organizations, advise Student Government, and coordinate extra-curricular activities.

Still said the new student life director would have to have a number of qualities, including flexibility, the ability to come up with solutions in the face of unexpected issues, a sense of humor and the willingness to spend time working with students and student life staff.

Margo J. Thomas, is the director of student organizations and leadership development at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minn. She has worked in student affairs in higher education for over eight years.

Peck is the senior student affairs administrator at the University of Texas at Austin. He has also held multiple positions in student affairs at colleges and universities in Illinois and in Texas.

Although the student population at UT is just below 50,000, Peck said he would have no problem working at USF St. Petersburg, where the student population is not quite 50,000. "A lot of things are fairly universal," he said. "The programs at UT have a small school feel to them."

Peck said that as a bigger school, the student life director would have to create a compelling vision to get students involved in campus activities, but that at USF St. Petersburg, it would simply be a matter of creating a vision that would unify the student body.

To increase student participation at USF St. Petersburg, he suggested holding events like a "Take the Table" tournament, in which students would have a pool, ping-pong or football tournament, and whoever won would take home the table.

Regina Young Hyatt, the associate director of student activities at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where she has worked since 1998, also served as student activities coordinator at Palmer College in Denver, Colorado.

Her suggestions for increasing student involvement at USF St. Petersburg was to create a group of student leaders who would serve as "town criers," going around campus telling others about the school activities. Both Peck and Hyatt also suggested having more student leaders that would train student leaders.
Guest Editorial
By Heath Hooper

I
t has been difficult to escape the media frenzy surrounding the Schiavo case, whether you live in St. Petersburg or Peoria. Naturally curious individual that I am, I decided to head down to Pinellas Park recently and see what the hubbub was all about.

The main purpose of the visit was to interview protesters on site, both pro-Schindler and pro-Schiavo. Surprisingly, I had great difficulty finding the latter. Without fail, I found that the protesters were deeply distrustful of the mainstream press and relied primarily on tailored Web sites, such as terrisfight.org or WorldNetDaily.org, an ultra-conservative news site, for their information. These sites, coupled with a number of blogs and communications both physical and virtual, allowed for the creation by the protesters of a reality perfectly suited to their needs. HearSay became fact, and innumerable took on the weight of authority.

Two observations spring from this experience. First, I was forced to question the ability of mainstream press to give the public an undistorted picture of "reality," even when I was exposed to the same news releases as the protesters, but where they see conspiracy, I see fact and journalistic integrity. I had to confront the fact that any reality-construct is no better than theses, and often less credible than what I read in their news are the same codes they see in mine. Some of the clearest and most lucid protestor were the ones that would have normally dismissed as nuts. These folks had facts, figures, and probably could have produced charts and graphs had I asked for them.

It was a difficult weekend coming to terms with my feelings on the issue, due in large part to such realizations. Second, the circular exchange of information allowed and generated by the new communication technology appears to harden ideological viewpoints instead of encouraging diversity. These individuals read the same Web sites, talked to the same people, and belonged to the same cyber-communities. It was a circle of friends that niched across America. In this situation, dissent is unlikely.

Although I realize that neither of these observations is radical in nature, it was nonetheless disturbing to see theory in practice. It is astounding that these particular individuals were for the most part marginal cases, and that the vast majority of individuals do not have the time or inclination to take part in this particular nuisance. Nonetheless, the fact that this kind of thinking could happen, leads me to wonder what world we live in. It demonstrates the potential of a highly factionalized society to exist. Everyone has some cause they could go crazy over, and tailored news seems only to encourage such a trend. I doubt that such a thing can be judged either good or bad in itself. It is probably simply an evolutionary social trend that will moderate itself over time, but it is something that we must consider as we tackle new media issues.

Heath Hooper is a graduate in the journalism program. He can be reached ehhooper@msn.com.

---

Opinions

Schiavo case leaves more questions than answers

Guest Editorial
By Heath Hooper

I

has been difficult to escape the media frenzy surrounding the Schiavo case, whether you live in St. Petersburg or Peoria. Naturally curious individual that I am, I decided to head down to Pinellas Park recently and see what the hubbub was all about.

The main purpose of the visit was to interview protesters on site, both pro-Schindler and pro-Schiavo. Surprisingly, I had great difficulty finding the latter. Without fail, I found that the protesters were deeply distrustful of the mainstream press and relied primarily on tailored Web sites, such as terrisfight.org or WorldNetDaily.org, an ultra-conservative news site, for their information. These sites, coupled with a number of blogs and communications both physical and virtual, allowed for the creation by the protesters of a reality perfectly suited to their needs. HearSay became fact, and innumerable took on the weight of authority.

Two observations spring from this experience. First, I was forced to question the ability of mainstream press to give the public an undistorted picture of "reality," even when I was exposed to the same news releases as the protesters, but where they see conspiracy, I see fact and journalistic integrity. I had to confront the fact that any reality-construct is no better than theses, and often less credible than what I read in their news are the same codes they see in mine. Some of the clearest and most lucid protestor were the ones that would have normally dismissed as nuts. These folks had facts, figures, and probably could have produced charts and graphs had I asked for them.

It was a difficult weekend coming to terms with my feelings on the issue, due in large part to such realizations. Second, the circular exchange of information allowed and generated by the new communication technology appears to harden ideological viewpoints instead of encouraging diversity. These individuals read the same Web sites, talked to the same people, and belonged to the same cyber-communities. It was a circle of friends that niched across America. In this situation, dissent is unlikely.

Although I realize that neither of these observations is radical in nature, it was nonetheless disturbing to see theory in practice. It is astounding that these particular individuals were for the most part marginal cases, and that the vast majority of individuals do not have the time or inclination to take part in this particular nuisance. Nonetheless, the fact that this kind of thinking could happen, leads me to wonder what world we live in. It demonstrates the potential of a highly factionalized society to exist. Everyone has some cause they could go crazy over, and tailored news seems only to encourage such a trend. I doubt that such a thing can be judged either good or bad in itself. It is probably simply an evolutionary social trend that will moderate itself over time, but it is something that we must consider as we tackle new media issues.

Heath Hooper is a graduate in the journalism program. He can be reached ehhooper@msn.com.

---

Excuses, excuses

Guest Editorial
By Lisa Rosenhell

T

here is only one thing you learn in college that will be useful later in life. There used to be two things, but what with all the professors you read about in Technically Incorrect, it looks like students are spending their time in exchange for grades is somehow "wrong," now it's just one. That skill is how to make up good excuses.

The Good Excuse has been valued by students probably since one of Plato's disciples only got him a wolf at his dialogue. Primitive homework excuses were still in use as late as the 1970s: "My dog ate it." 'I left it on the bus," I got abed of some boil drenchalow .

Today, of course, we have technology that has advanced our excuses in ways our parents could only dream of. "I didn't have my phone with me," "My printer ran out of ink," "I don't understand how you paper wound up on TermPapersForSale.com." For some reason, teachers, school administrators and other poorly-paid individuals look down on these excuses. They think that you're only cheating yourself, when, of course, you're cheating them.

But let's look beyond this whole middle-class, judgmental, non-post modern cheating fixation to what really matters.

Why do you go to college in the first place? You may want to expand your mind with cutting-edge theories, delve into the wisdom of the ages, or try to find out what is in life. As a professor, I believe that this is the path of wisdom. Because of the TV-shortened attention span, we're still in use as late as the first ten minutes of any film, most people either leave the theater or fall asleep. This leads me to the belief that using college to expand your mind is a poor use of your time. Let's make it six hours late because by the time the Professor is so used to students struggling into classes at noon hang over in last night's clothes that he may not even notice if you leave the class.

I'm not saying that you shouldn't raise your hand and ask for help, but you should also be able to figure out how to do things on your own. If you can't figure out how to do things on your own, you're probably not ready to be in college.

Another excuse is the one about "I was drunk." It's a commonly used excuse, but it's not a very good one. I'm not saying that alcohol is bad, but you should be able to use your better judgment and decide when you should go to college and when you shouldn't.

So what are the skills that enable you to do this? Unfortuna later the USF Journalism program, I've heard of some great skills that are necessary to do this. From the class of 5,000, Newton-Chairman in Advanced Theoretical Mathematics, new ideas are not going to keep paychecks coming. Naturally curious individual that I am, I decided to head down to Pinellas Park recently and see what the hubbub was all about.

Two observations spring from this experience. First, I was forced to question the ability of mainstream press to give the public an undistorted picture of "reality," even when I was exposed to the same news releases as the protesters, but where they see conspiracy, I see fact and journalistic integrity. I had to confront the fact that any reality-construct is no better than theses, and often less credible than what I read in their news are the same codes they see in mine. Some of the clearest and most lucid protestor were the ones that would have normally dismissed as nuts. These folks had facts, figures, and probably could have produced charts and graphs had I asked for them.

It was a difficult weekend coming to terms with my feelings on the issue, due in large part to such realizations. Second, the circular exchange of information allowed and generated by the new communication technology appears to harden ideological viewpoints instead of encouraging diversity. These individuals read the same Web sites, talked to the same people, and belonged to the same cyber-communities. It was a circle of friends that niched across America. In this situation, dissent is unlikely.

Although I realize that neither of these observations is radical in nature, it was nonetheless disturbing to see theory in practice. It is astounding that these particular individuals were for the most part marginal cases, and that the vast majority of individuals do not have the time or inclination to take part in this particular nuisance. Nonetheless, the fact that this kind of thinking could happen, leads me to wonder what world we live in. It demonstrates the potential of a highly factionalized society to exist. Everyone has some cause they could go crazy over, and tailored news seems only to encourage such a trend. I doubt that such a thing can be judged either good or bad in itself. It is probably simply an evolutionary social trend that will moderate itself over time, but it is something that we must consider as we tackle new media issues.

Heath Hooper is a graduate in the journalism program. He can be reached ehhooper@msn.com.

---

InformMe

Top 10 Excuses for Late Assignments

1. My dog ate it.
2. I didn't do it because my dog ate it.
3. I didn't do it because my dog ate it due to my dog not being fed.
4. I didn't do it because my dog ate it because I didn't feed my dog.
5. I didn't do it because my dog ate it because I didn't feed my dog because he chomped down on an essay I was working on.
6. I didn't do it because my dog ate it because I didn't feed my dog because I was too busy eating.
7. I didn't do it because my dog ate it because I didn't feed my dog because I was just too busy.
8. I didn't do it because my dog ate it because I didn't feed my dog because I was eating.
9. I didn't do it because my dog ate it because I didn't feed my dog because I was eating.
10. I didn't do it because my dog ate it because I didn't feed my dog because I was eating.

Michelle Bocchino
Senior Staff Writer
mbocchino@mail.usf.edu

---
Art students exhibit their talents

Art is timeless. By crossing the line of reality and entering the vast world of imagination, many are able to discover not only more about the meaning of life, but also more about themselves. Artists often have to be fearless because they open their insides and splatter them on a page for everyone to see. This type of exposure may not be for everyone, but several USF St. Petersburg students have realized their dream of becoming artists.

The beginning and intermediate drawing and painting classes, taught by professor Lucy Karl, will be holding an art exhibit April 8 through April 24. The free event is called "Nudes to Nonobjective." The exhibition will be held in the two main galleries of Salt Creek Artworks, an old furniture store renovated by artists into studio, gallery and classroom space. The building is located at 1600 Fourth St. S., about a mile from campus.

"This exhibition is a wonderful forum for the students to display their works and for the public to see a group of talented, emerging artists at the USF St. Petersburg campus," said senior Thanh Seybold, president of the Arts Forum organization.

Seybold will have some of her works on display. She completed a blurred charcoal sketch of her cat Earle Grey and an oil painting of her dog Ginger Snap. Her pets are her favorite subjects.

"My animals are such a large part of my life that it is just natural that they would inspire me creatively," Seybold said. "Creating art both relaxes and stimulates me. If I'm not drawing or painting, I'm either crocheting or knitting or thinking of drawing, painting, crocheting and knitting. It keeps me sane.

Karl says that she and her students feel honored to hold an exhibit at Salt Creek Artworks. Azelle Prince and his daughter Pat Burges, the owners of Salt Creek Artworks, are fully supporting the student exhibition as part of the focus of Community Partnerships, Karl said.

"The owners at Salt Creek have very graciously paid for all of the expenses of the exhibition," Karl said. "We are the first student exhibition to be invited. All prior exhibitions were of professional artists—local, state, and national."

Salt Creek's curator, Lance Rodgers, came up with the idea for the exhibit.

"Curator Lance Rodgers saw the student work and thought the range—from traditional to cutting-edge—would be an exciting exhibit," Karl said.

The works being displayed are of many different styles, ranging from realistic and expressionistic to abstract and nonobjective. The different mediums used range from graphite, charcoal and oil to conte crayon, brush and ink, collage and mixed media. The subject matter also varies from still life and landscape to figure studies and conceptual renderings.

"Some works focus on technique, some explore a particular content or theme, while others highlight the students' individual styles," Karl said.

See ART Page 6

Below and right: These oil paintings, made by USF St. Petersburg student Dantys Bohan, will be featured in an exhibit at Salt Creek Artworks, located at 1600 Fourth St. S. The exhibit runs from April 8 through April 24.
**Campus Critters**

USF St. Petersburg is home to more than just students and faculty—it has to share space with wildlife, both big and small.

Above: The wildlife found on campus include mockingbirds like this one perched on a parking sign along Seventh Avenue South in front of Davis Hall on March 31. At right, a gray squirrel pauses on a tree outside the Campus Activities Center.

Wendy Owen  
Staff Writer

Sit down by the water at Bayboro and breathe the salty spring air. Within minutes, squirrels, insects and five or six different kinds of birds will have probably crossed your path. If you are lucky you may even get to see a manatee peeking out from between the boats in the harbor.

Even though USF St. Petersburg students and staff are lucky to be able to co-exist with so much wild life on campus, sometimes they forget it is even there. Strange creatures often pop up on campus and often go unnoticed. Strange seedpods wash up on the tiny strip of beach by the shore. Chameleons, parrots and even sharks share the environment, he said that there are still a few signs of wildlife on the campus. Gore said that he has noticed a huge variety of spiders and insects. He calls our most visible animal on campus—the squirrel—a "weedy species," one that can easily adapt to life amongst humans.

Cuban anoles are one particular species of reptile that Gore is surprised to see on campus. These chameleon-like lizards have a brown tail with a white strip and are most active in the evening. Unlike chameleons, anoles don't change color, but do have a bright "dulap" that they use to attract mates. Gore said that the anoles are in mating season right now, so this is the time when they are most active and visible. They can be seen around campus doing push-ups to display their dominance or just fighting with each other.

Some of the strangest creatures on campus may be beneath a murky surface. Jim Locascio a marine science graduate student, studies fish in and near the bay and says he has seen a number of different fish varieties. Locascio said that one time he even saw a bull shark. Even though an artificial sea wall now stands where sea wall once was, Locascio said that things still manage to grow there and it becomes food for animals.

"We definitely have wildlife out here that is using the resources," said Locascio. "We are a social species that add a real tropical flavor to the area, she said. According to Floridaenvironment.com these parrots have spawned from residents releasing pets, which has created 79 species in the wild. The last living native parrots died off years ago, but currently 25 of the formerly domesticated species are breeding in the wild in Florida today.

The best place to view wildlife, like the parrots or crabs on the beach, is near Bush, said Cassil. The bush is a great place for wildlife to flourish, providing them with a home, shelter and food sources. However, Cassil said that 70 percent of our campus is sterile, pesticide grass which does not encourage wildlife to grow. Cassil said that she would like to see more signs increase on campus.

Even though the campus is currently going through many new developments, like the parking garages and student housing, Cassil is optimistic. She says that she is glad that the campus is building up instead of sprawling, and that the campus is capping student enrollment to 10,000. Cassil hopes that the new developments will also bring new landscaping beyond grass to encourage campus wildlife.

Above: The wildlife found on campus include mockingbirds like this one perched on a parking sign along Seventh Avenue South in front of Davis Hall on March 31. At right, a gray squirrel pauses on a tree outside the Campus Activities Center.

Photogra phed by: In-Studio

Left: Gray squirrels are also found scurrying around USF St. Petersburg buildings. This one was photographed outside Coquina Hall.

Locascio is working on his study area of education; Cassil said. "What I see going on in Florida is that a lot of people who enjoy the resources are lacking of appreciation that would only come from education," Locascio said. "They haven't been exposed to it."

Biology professor Debbie Cassil also feels that the campus is lucky to be along the shore and said, "It's delightful for students to come on campus and see big beautiful birds."

Cassil said that she has noted a great number of insects and crustaceans that she calls "crunchers" on our campus: oysters, millipedes, centipedes, crabs, snails, beetles and most recently a black widow spider. Cassil's main thoughts that people don't appreciate the level of wildlife that is around them.

"What I see going on in Florida is that a lot of people who enjoy the resources are lacking in a level of appreciation that would only come from education," Locascio said. "They haven't been exposed to it."

Biology professor Debbie Cassil also feels that the campus is lucky to be along the shore and said, "It's delightful for students to come on campus and see big beautiful birds."

Cassil said that she has noted a great number of insects and crustaceans that she calls "crunchers" on our campus: oysters, millipedes, centipedes, crabs, snails, beetles and most recently a black widow spider. Cassil's main area of study surrounds ants, and she finds that even though our school uses pesticides, she still sees quite a few ants on campus. "We don't eradicate, we just control," said Cassil.

Cassil said that she has also seen a high number of birds and around our campus, the most strange being a Chilen parrot. These parrots, which she has seen mostly nesting at Vinoy Park, are a social species that add a real tropical flavor to the area, she said.

According to Floridaenvironment.com these parrots have spawned from residents releasing pets, which has created 79 species in the wild. The last living native parrots died off years ago, but currently 25 of the formerly domesticated species are breeding in the wild in Florida today.

The best place to view wildlife, like the parrots or crabs on the beach, is near Bush, said Cassil. The bush is a great place for wildlife to flourish, providing them with a home, shelter and food sources. However, Cassil said that 70 percent of our campus is sterile, pesticide grass which does not encourage wildlife to grow. Cassil said that she would like to see more signs increase on campus.

Even though the campus is currently going through many new developments, like the parking garages and student housing, Cassil is optimistic. She says that she is glad that the campus is building up instead of sprawling, and that the campus is capping student enrollment to 10,000. Cassil hopes that the new developments will also bring new landscaping beyond grass to encourage campus wildlife.

Left: Gray squirrels are also found scurrying around USF St. Petersburg buildings. This one was photographed outside Coquina Hall.
ART from Page 4

visions," Karl said. Amberly Gorman, another student whose work will be on display, will be showing at least three pieces. The titles of the pieces are "Wendy Revised," "The Honed One" and "The Conversion of Wendy." All of them are done in oil, which is Gorman's favorite type of media to work in. "All my life, I have felt an overwhelming need to paint and draw," Gorman said. "These images are very personal, like a diary. Through my work, I hope to break the chains of what is considered taboo in our society, as well as address the hardships of everyday life."

Gorman, who says her dream is to one day end up in an art history book, is in the process of setting up her own production company. Many of the students being exhibited are majoring in studio art, art history, graphic design or humanities. However, there are some students who are majoring in fields like chemistry, political science and criminology.

"My style is loose and I prefer to paint with a palette knife rather than a brush," Ryan says of her painting process. She tends to paint in darker hues—blues, violets, dark reds and greens—rather than earth or light hues. "My style is loose and I prefer to paint with a palette knife rather than a brush." Ryan says that her paintings can take anywhere from three to 10 work hours to complete. She would like to eventually earn a degree in art. Until then, she says she will continue painting art pieces on campus and at The Art Center located in downtown St. Petersburg.

"This exhibit is a growth opportunity to see how the public and our peers view and perceive our art," Ryan said. "It also gives the artist confidence in showing their work."

Dantys Bohan is another non-traditional student. Although she graduated in December 2004, she has continued taking art classes with Karl. Bohan says that art runs in her bloodstream. "I am a visual person. My entire life I have looked at the world with deep appreciation for the various colors, shapes and patterns that nature so perfectly produces," Bohan said. "I love all types of art and I feel great personal satisfaction when I create drawings and paintings. Some of my earliest memories are of looking through my mother's old dusty college art books and at her paintings on our walls." Bohan plans to continue her artistic path in the future. "My goal as an artist is to continually improve my art," Bohan said. "I still have so much to learn, and most importantly a personal style to develop. I plan to devote more time to my artistic endeavors, experiment with different mediums and work with our new USF students' organization, the Arts Forum."

Professor Lucy Karl says that it is important for students and faculty to come to the exhibit to witness for themselves the many hours of creative effort. "It's important we support our students and the fine arts," Karl said. "I am so excited about the art exhibit at Salt Creek," said Bohan, who has completed beginning drawing, intermediate drawing, beginning painting and now intermediate painting at USF St. Petersburg with a wonderful professor and some very talented fellow students. "The show promises to be filled with some amazing new art that compels and engages the viewer. You won't be disappointed!"

TIME from Page 2

also obtained from changing their clocks in April and October. U.S. territories that keep consistent time include American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

While most of Arizona does not observe daylight-savings time, the area that is inhabited by the Navajo Indian Reservation does, the site said, because of its large size and location in three states.

Although Arizona does not change times throughout the year, many students are from different states. For Perasso, a sophomore majoring in English, it is more interesting to gain an hour when I go back to California,' Perasso said. "It's kind of weird that Arizona doesn't change times like everyone else, but I think it's easier to live here because you don't have to switch;' Perasso said. The West Coast is unique because during daylight-savings time, Arizona has the same time as the Pacific Standard Time zone. During standard time, Arizona is considered part of the Mountain Standard Time, according to the site. Students from the West Coast have a time discrepancy for only half the year. Californian Jesse Downey, a judicious studies sophomore, said she thinks Arizona's consistent time is strange and bewildering. "It's incredibly annoying that Arizona doesn't change," Downey said. "I can never remember what time it is in other places, and we are just one state away. I don't care what Arizona has been different.

Downey, who usually travels to California, said going home during standard time is more convenient than anything. "Going home doesn't affect me that much, but it's really nice to gain an hour when I go back to California," Downey said. "Then it goes back to annoying when I lose an hour coming back here."
Movie Review
By Wendy Owen

Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock becomes a prisoner of fast food in the 2004 film documentary, "Super Size Me."

McDonald's lovers beware. After seeing this movie, you will either swear off fast food altogether or get an icyavenous feeling every time you visit the Golden Arches. Directed and starring average American guy Morgan Spurlock, this film is more than a commentary about how fast food makes you fat. Like fellow documenter Michael Moore, Spurlock uses comedy and shock tactics as fuel for his guilla-style filmmaking.

In many ways, this topic seems like a no-brainer: Yes, fast food is bad for you! However, Spurlock makes this an interesting and educational experience by making himself a guinea pig. He undergoes puking, fights with his vegan girlfriend and actual addiction to fast food throughout the film. Arty montages and a clever soundtrack also help to make this film totally entertaining. In the end, we come to realize that some people are stuck in the greasy prison that is fast food dining. Fast food locations, poverty and downright stupidity are making people in America and all over the world prisoners in their own bodies.

So, are McDonald’s and other fast food chains responsible for making Americans fat? Spurlock seems to think so. He interviews kids at public schools to see what they are having and what the government regulates to them (he also compares them to meal plans for inmates). Left to their own devices, kids choose fries, sugary drinks and more unhealthy options for lunch.

In the end, "Super Size Me" does prove that a diet solely based on fast food could kill you in the time it takes to make it—fast. Many of the people Spurlock interviewed on the street cited eating at fast food restaurants three to five times a week. Some people even said they eat fast food on a daily basis. Spurlock’s main agenda seemed to be that fast food franchises should be held partially responsible for American waistlines. However, he also proved that people are responsible for what they put in their own mouths.

2004 rated PG 100 minutes
Directed by and starring Morgan Spurlock

Why the Force is with me

Movie Commentary
By Anthony J. Salveaggi

On May 19, "Star Wars III: Revenge of the Sith" will be released, the sixth and final chapter in a movie franchise that began nearly 30 years ago. And as it reaches theaters, it will, in a sense, bring to a close a celebrated pop-culture achievement.

Much has been written over the years on George Lucas' series — for its indebtedness to the mythological teachings of Joseph Campbell, for the fervent worship inspired in its fans, and for having ushered in the summer blockbuster era and the attendant eye-candy-laden films we have come to expect each May. Apropos of that last point, Lucas six-film saga will, for many, have been little more than an exercise in vanity, a buzzkill space opera. For others, including myself, each film is an occasion for revisiting a place we can never fully return to.

I was thrilled when I learned back in 1998 that Lucas would be filming a three-pretzel prequel to his classic trilogy. Though "The Phantom Menace" received mixed reviews, I enjoyed the movie for its sense of innocent wonder that harkened back to the 1979 original. It was, admittedly, disappointed by its mediocre follow-up in 2002, "Attack of the Clones." For those who have found the "Star Wars" installments to be silly, the upcoming release of the "Revenge of the Sith" will probably only cause them dismay at how many people are going to work themselves into a fresh right up until opening day. Let me explain for myself why I will always remain wistfully fond of Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker and the Force.

In 1977, my parents took me to a Ft. Lauderdale cinema, one of the first times I had ever seen a big-screen movie. My six-year-old eyes both emotionally and intellectually. After that, I watched the "Star Wars" trilogy. But for me, "Star Wars" had a lot to do with my imagination.

"For me, "Star Wars" has never been about trivia or dressing up as one's favorite character or standing in line. It's about being young enough to be capable of being enchanted.

Some will say that "Star Wars" is a communal experience because it is shared by so many — there are stories of people waiting for months in line to get tickets, numerous conventions and imitable Web sites devoted to every last intricacy of the galaxy far, far away. But for me, "Star Wars" has never been about trivia or dressing up as one's favorite character or standing in line. It's about being young enough to be capable of being enchanted. Other films still have the power to awe me, but never in quite the same way. "Star Wars" reminds me of a magical time in my childhood, one that I will always cherish.

I'm sure the entire series will be re-released on the big screen. I look forward to taking my son and watching his eyes widen in amazement.
Above: Phil Conner, 19, barely catches a disc-golf frisbee thrown by Cory Vilardia, 22, on the Harbourside Lawn on March 7. Disc-golf is played like golf but with a frisbee, Conner said.

Right: Cory Vilardia, 22, (background) and Phil Conner, 19, (foreground) practice throwing a disc-golf frisbee.

Below: Students Leana Garibova (center) and Vedrana Cvjetkovic (right) hand out memorial bricks before the March 30 groundbreaking of USF St. Petersburg's new student housing. Housing will open in Fall 2006 and will stand on the corner of Second Street and Fifth Avenue South.

Michelle Brown and Lisa Jane McNeil eat a free lunch on March 30 during a reception for the student housing groundbreaking.

SoundOff

What type of Internet do you use?
(See story, page 1)

"I just use the school's Internet service."
Steve Snyder, 23, senior

"Road-Runner (cable) because it's flippin' fast."
Rosha Monsour, 18, freshman

"I use Road-Runner (cable) because it's a lot faster than my old service. Verizon just wasn't quick enough."
Kevin Picard, 19, freshman