USF St. Petersburg students try out the chairs of Florida's Supreme Court justices during USF Day at the Capital on April 20. Students and faculty visited Tallahassee that day to tell state legislators and representatives about the university's plans. Students also visited Florida State University's law library, sat in on House proceedings and listened to oral arguments about a Fourth Amendment case.

Donald Wolf
Staff Writer

Students and faculty from USF St. Petersburg met with state representatives and officials April 20 as part of the annual USF Day at the Capital, which allows the university to promote its achievements to state leaders.

USF St. Petersburg political science professor Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan took 20 of her students to Tallahassee for the event.

"We were ambassadors for USF St. Petersburg," McLauchlan said. Her group visited the Supreme Court of Florida, Florida State University's law library, sat in on House proceedings and listened to oral arguments about a Fourth Amendment case. They also met state legislators and state representatives.

"We had a really packed day and a half," McLauchlan said. "It was truly amazing and exceeded all expectations." At the Supreme Court, the students were allowed to sit in the justices' chairs and received a welcome by the chief justice before proceedings.

But beyond its allure as an exciting field trip, the event was also seen as a way to talk with state representatives about the university's plans. "It gives us a chance for our voices to be heard," said Tim Pincolas, USF St. Petersburg's Student Government president, who could not make the trip because of class schedule conflicts. "We are a smaller part of the system, so sometimes it becomes difficult."
**Brief Me**
By Anthony J. Salvaggi

USF becomes host for Web logs

USF recently launched blog.usf.edu, where students can set up their own Web logs. Blogs, as they are commonly known, are online journals consisting of message entries or "posts." The USF host allows users to publish online without needing to know HTML scripting. On the main page, users can navigate to recently updated pages, read frequently asked questions and register to set up their own blogs. Besides having the ability to easily publish on the Web, users can syndicate their blog's content to be read by a news aggregator such as Bloglines. Users can also share digital pictures. The system is currently available for students with e-mail accounts ending in mail.usf.edu.

Groundbreaking for parking garage set for May 3

Groundbreaking for the campus' first parking garage is scheduled for Tuesday, May 3, at 8:30 a.m. in the Florida Center for Teachers' courtyard, located on the corner of Sixth Avenue and Second Street South. USF President Judy Genshaft, Regional Chancellor Karen White and St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker are scheduled to participate in the ceremony.

The garage, the first of two planned parking facilities, will be located on the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and Third Street South and will contain 1,100 parking spaces. A two-story Barnes & Noble bookstore and the campus police will also occupy the facility. The structure will cost an estimated $11.3 million to build, which will be raised through a bond issuance, and is expected to be completed in July 2006.

New student life director chosen

Regina Young Hyatt has been chosen on April 18 as USF St. Petersburg's new director of student life. Hyatt is currently the associate director of student activities at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where she has worked since 1998. She has also served as student activities coordinator at Palmer College in Davenport, Iowa.

Hyatt will assume the student life director's duties on June 20. She will be responsible for everything falling under student life, including the Campus Activities Center, fitness center, waterfront and student clubs. She will manage USF St. Petersburg's activity and service fee box office, which funds all student life departments and programs, and will also supervise student organizations, advise Student Government, and coordinate extra-curricular activities.

**Wendy Owen Staff Writer**

It may cost less to take classes at a community college. This summer, Leigh Bauer, a junior majoring in criminology, is considering enrolling at St. Petersburg College, which has lower tuition than USF Bauer is also weighing other factors aside from cost, including traffic and class times.

Students might take summer classes outside of USF because of course offerings. USF St. Petersburg does not offer many 100 level courses, including core courses like Basic Economics and American National Government. These courses can be taken at local community colleges like SPC. USF might recognize classes taken outside of the university if they are not offered at USF during the summer term. Students must first fill out a cross-enrollment form and obtain approval from the academic advising office. Those planning to cross-enroll also need to be aware that some scholarships, including Bright Futures, are not available for summer classes.

**Takmg summer classes? Here's a comparison of how much it will cost to take courses at USF St. Petersburg, USF Tampa and St. Petersburg College this summer.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Course Fee</th>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Parking</th>
<th>Distance</th>
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<td>USF</td>
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<td>Medium</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>SPC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Monique Garcia**
Daily Egyptian (Southern Illinois U.)

(U-WIRE) CARBONDALE, Ill. - "The job market is looking bright for students preparing to enter the workforce, as labor economists predict higher salaries and more job opportunities in the upcoming months. According to a new report published by the National Association of College Employers, the average starting salary offers to recent college graduates are climbing at a steady pace.

Business and engineering majors fared particularly well, with accounting graduates posting a 29.7 percent increase in starting salary since last spring, raising it to $43,609. Economics and finance graduates saw a 51 percent increase in starting pay, with a starting offer averaging at $42,802, and computer science graduates now make about $51,291 to start.

Chemical engineering and electrical engineering graduates had some of the highest pay increases, at $54,256 and $52,009, respectively. Andrea Koncz, spokeswoman for the National Association of College Employers, said the salary increases are a direct reflection of a rebounding economy, and in addition to increased salaries, growing business are also looking for more new hires.

"Things are definitely looking up," said Cindy Jenkins, assistant director of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale Career Services. "The job market has improved significantly since 2001, when 9/11 really caused a lot of damage. Even compared to last semester, students are getting more interviews, and more businesses are coming to campus to recruit."

During the fall 2004 semester, 29 employers came to campus and interviewed 378 students. This semester, 55 employers interviewed 60 students, according to Career Services.

Job market looks positive for 2005 graduates

Businesses are increasingly interested in attracting new recruits, according to a recent report by the National Association of Colleges Employers (NACE). The report found that job openings increased 11 percent in 2004, and that the average salary for college graduates was $45,270.

"Businesses are increasingly interested in attracting new recruits, and that is reflected in the increasing number of job openings," said Dan Vitale, director of the NACE Career Development Center.

The report also found that the job market is looking bright for students preparing to enter the workforce, as labor economists predict higher salaries and more job opportunities in the upcoming months. According to a new report published by the National Association of College Employers, the average starting salary offers to recent college graduates are climbing at a steady pace.

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Ben Smith, a senior studying management from Yorkville, said it's nice to hear the job market is doing well, although he hasn't actively pursued any job opportunities yet. "There is a saying in the business world that it's not what you know, but who you know. I think in this case, it is better to have networking or personal contacts."

"I went into this major before 2001, and then everything started going downhill, so this is a great news," said Ben Smith, a senior studying management from Yorkville, said it's nice to hear the job market is doing well, although he hasn't actively pursued any job opportunities yet. "There is a saying in the business world that it's not what you know, but who you know. I think in this case, it is better to have networking or personal contacts."

"And I think in this case, it is better to anticipate the national trend for those about to graduate, which is a positive job market.""
A nice way to finish

Staff Directory

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The Crow's Nest office is located in CAC 124.

Office Hours:
Monday: closed
Tuesday: 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Wednesday: 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Thursday: closed
Friday: 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Editorial
By Anthony J. Salveggi

I'm my final editorial of the spring semester, so I thought it would be a nice change of pace for me to share an event of special significance in my life. It happened on April 15, and didn't have anything to do with getting my taxes done. My son Alexander was born. Someday, when he's old enough to understand a joke, I'll tell him that his arrival coincided with the end of the semester crunch of term papers and any obligations as the assignment editor for The Crow's Nest and staff intern for the Tampa Bay Business Journal. His mother, who is an accountant, will likely thank him for arriving a week past the original due date, allowing her to get a lot more work done than she had anticipated.

She'll teasingly remind him of the stress she endured up to that point, as she worked frantically to file as many returns and complete as many audits as possible. But for now, seeing my wife Andrea holding Alexander in her arms instills in me a desire to do everything in my power to make them feel happy and secure. The evening we brought him home, I fell asleep by his side and nothing else in the world mattered. Later, as he cried inconsolably, the pit of my stomach tightened as I felt helpless, wanting only to ease his pain.

It's hard to take life and its blessings for granted when crafting Alexander in my arms. Each moment is a gift, and I sometimes stop myself from thinking too far into the future about all the things I want to do with him and teach him. Maybe I'm superstitious, but I remind myself to enjoy the moments I've been given. I was already a lucky man to have found a woman that loves me. I am doubly blessed to have a child that needs my love.

One more thing about that April 15 birthdate. Am I tempted to dub him The Taxman? You bet. And for now, seeing my wife Andra with Alexander in my arms, it reminds me the chance to write for the paper. As the paper's adviser, Lorene Roberson imparted her wisdom earned from years of experience to make sure we kept our eyes on the paper's primary mission: providing the news. But this appreciation would not be complete without giving kudos to Kristie Martinez, who has guided The Crow's Nest as editor since last August, and made it into a weekly paper for the first time in its long history. She has my gratitude for giving me the chance to write for the paper and serve as its assignment editor this past semester.

I hope you found the paper both readable and informative and that you appreciate the contributions of all involved. This team has set the bar high for future staff.

The fullness of life is in the little things

Editorial
By Kristie A. Martinez

I wonder why I realized so close to my graduation what "live your life to the fullest" really means.

This semester, it meant stopping between my lunch break and my thesis-writing session to watch three friends back into a cinder block-like chunk of frozen lasagna left over in the CAC kitchen. It meant passing for a few minutes on a deadline day to join my friends in throwing stuffed animals over a cubicle wall to see who could hit on the other side. It meant taking group trips to Publix to grab subs for lunch two or three times a week, even when we all knew we were "poor college students" who should be saving money.

But I didn't always know how to enjoy these things. I spent many semesters alone in a library study room, trying to comprehend every word in my textbooks. If I bumped into a classmate and got into a conversation that lasted more than 15 minutes, I scolded myself all the way to the library about how much more study time I wanted. I didn't give myself opportunities to make friends or have anything that even closely resembled fun. I didn't know this lack of balance was keeping me from experiencing a more fulfilling life.

It took time for me to realize that there would never be enough time or energy to finish every assignment with A+ quality. And even if I devoted my whole life to being the perfect student, I would miss out on extra long "study breaks" with my friends — doing anything from swimming in the campus pool to exploring local pawn shops. I still have to remind myself that time spent laughing, doing random things and goofing around are just as important as time spent studying, editing and researching.

My graduation is just over a week away. While I crave the relief of knowing my thesis and other final projects will be done, I wonder what I'm going to do without this life, without these friends, without these daily adventures that I will never forget. In what other time will I jog the duties of a weekly newspaper editor with late-night hangouts, house chores and homework? How will the working world compare? I guess when it's time to enter that world, I'll just have to continue living my life to the fullest — and remind myself to chuck a stuffed animal over a cubicle wall every once in a while.

"Living my life to the fullest meant stopping between my lunch break and my thesis-writing session to watch three friends back into a cinder block-like chunk of frozen lasagna."

I wanted to take this space to express my gratitude to wonderful team assembled at The Crow's Nest. I've been privileged to work with the dedicated staff of writers and artists that make this paper what it is: a source of pride to USF St. Petersburg. Two graduating members of the staff come to mind as deserving special praise: Irena Milasinovic has embodied professionalism as a journalist, working hard to provide articles that are well-sourced and rich in detail. And graphics editor Jack Fawcett deserves to be singled out for his painstaking work in laying out the paper each weekend so that it becomes the attractive newspaper you pick up each Friday.

As the paper's adviser, Lorene Roberson imparted her wisdom earned from years of experience to make sure we kept our eyes on the paper's primary mission: providing the news. But this appreciation would not be complete without giving kudos to Kristie Martinez, who has guided The Crow's Nest as editor since last August, and made it into a weekly paper for the first time in its long history. She has my gratitude for giving me the chance to write for the paper and serve as its assignment editor this past semester.

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Editor's Note

Irene Milasinovic
Updated from: Milasinovic@yahoo.com

The Crow's Nest office as editor since last

A custodian's notes:

The first week, everything in the CAC was still being set up. The second week, the paper was already in the mail. The third week, everything was coming together. By the fourth week, the paper was being delivered to every dormitory.

The fifth week, the paper was being delivered to every dormitory and the mall. The sixth week, the paper was being delivered to every dormitory, the mall and the library. The seventh week, the paper was being delivered to every dormitory, the mall, the library and the residence halls.

The staff was hard at work, putting in long hours to make sure the paper was delivered on time. They were dedicated to getting the job done, no matter what.

The paper's primary mission: providing the news.

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When the tsunami hit South and Southeast Asia on Dec. 26, former USF geography professor Henry Aruffo watched people racing to higher ground as a 20-foot wave menaced the beach. Within 15 minutes, three enormous waves had pounded the shoreline and destroyed Phuket, Thailand, where Aruffo has lived since July 2003.

Aruffo, who is director of the Coral Reef Institute in Thailand, was part of a rescue team after the tsunami. He helped pull bodies from two basement stores under a shopping center. He dived into Patong Bay and Kata Bay to limit the oil and gas leaking out of tourist and fishing boats that had sunk.

He captured the following images of the tsunami aftermath, which he said has changed him from fun-loving to angry and depressed. "Life will never really be the same as before," Aruffo said.
Helping others is a passion

Social Work professor Jessica Cabness has been teaching at USF St. Petersburg since 2002. But her need to help others seems to have always been with her.

Irena Milasinovic
Features Editor

This desire manifested itself early in her life as she studied to become a medical doctor. Although she never gained her medical degree, her quest to help others went undeterred.

Cabness joined her classmates in a quest to register blacks in Alabama to vote, four years after the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965. "I had no notion at the time of being a freedom rider," she said. "We were just doing the right thing. Social justice has long been part of who I am."

Cabness has also enriched her life through her diversity of interests. She received her bachelor’s degree in French and Secondary Education from Howard University and spent time in West Africa France and Spain. "You might say that my early life experiences were filled with wonder and fueled by a wandering spirit," Cabness said.

After returning from Europe in 1980, Cabness became a secretary with a consulting firm. And in 1985, she completed her master’s degree in behavioral science at the Catholic University of America to earn a master’s degree in social work. Cabness used her skills as a social worker last year when she volunteered last to help resettle Somali Bantu refugees. Because they were routinely persecuted and marginalized in Somalia, they were forced to flee their rural farms after civil war broke out in 1991. About 100 Somali Bantu refugees arrived in St. Petersburg last spring under the auspices of Catholic Charities, a group dedicated to providing social services.

Cabness became involved with the refugees through Father Callist Nyambo, former pastor at St. Joseph Catholic Church in St. Petersburg. She, along with the other volunteers, prepared for their arrival and assisted them with getting their basic survival needs met. "There is nothing heroic in this," Cabness said. "It is the least that anyone can do for newcomers, particularly those who do not speak our language."

Cabness became family to them, and certain moments stood out in her memory. "When one of the women had her baby, the nurses at Bayfront Hospital assumed that I was related and referred to me as 'Grandmother Holmes,' a name that stuck even after the child left the hospital nursery," she said. The child's mother called her "Garantamather."

"These were proud moments for me because I realized how much this family appreciated my efforts on their behalf," Cabness said.

But because of resettlement problems, the Somali Bantu were relocated to other parts of the country a year later. The last family left on St. Petersburg Feb. 22.

"I am still having some difficulty understanding the organizational structures that continue to shift these poor, defenseless people around," she said.

Jessica Cabness

"You might say that my early life experiences were filled with wonder and fueled by a wandering spirit."

Testing traditional boundaries of art

Chelsea Johanson-Dong
Daily Evergreen (Washington State U.)

(U-WIRE) PULLMAN, Wash. - Washington State University students were in for a surprise as they walked into the New Holland Library on Tuesday morning. The usually bare atrium was covered by dozens of red and white balloons.

Ell Tuttle, a senior architecture major, took the balloons and released them as an assignment for his intermediate sculpture class, Fine Arts 355.

"He's graduating next week, so it's one of his last projects here," said library assistant Ryan Johnson, who gave Tuttle permission to display his work in the atrium.

The balloons were put up around 9 a.m. They were tied together with the strings cascading down, creating a large bouquet on the ceiling. After the class viewed the piece, they were taken down and released on the Glenn Terrell Mall.

"It was actually like performance art," Library Director Virginia Steel said. "As soon as I heard about it, I knew it was something I had to see."

Over the course of this semester, students in Fine Arts 355 have been working with a contemporary style, known as installation art. Professor Nik Meisel said it was using materials to create an environment and enrich a space.

"It's different than most art because it isn't put on a pedestal," he said. "Instead, it's put within a context.""

Meisel praised Tuttle's work. He said Tuttle accomplished the goal of using art to enhance a volume that nobody used.

Other pieces like these are being displayed around campus and the Pullman, Wash., community.

Bryan Eaton, a junior fine arts major, used several yards of red yarn and wrapped it around the base of some trees off Linden Street. He said he liked this idea because it was a cheap resource and enjoyed the strong contrast between the two earth tones.

Eaton said this project helped him and other students think a little bit more about their surroundings.

"He (Meisel) wanted us to test the boundaries ... see how far we can push the medium," he said.

One of Meisel's main goals was to open his students' eyes to a new way of seeing art. "It changes the idea of how we think of beauty and what it is," Meisel said.

College students hooking up through thefacebook.com

Lynn Footlick
Contributing Writer

Two million students at 495 colleges around the country have been sucked into the newest, hippest place to be on the Internet: thefacebook.com, a Web site where college students can connect and communicate. And now the craze has hit Florida.

USF Tampa junior Megan Latchford, 19, said she signed up for thefacebook because it was the thing to do. Evidently, it is the thing to do. About 16,000 new members sign up every week, said Chris Hughes, press relations officer for thefacebook. So far in the state of Florida, the University of Florida has more than 21,000 members, Florida State University has more than 15,000 and USF has more than 5,000.

Users must have valid university or college email address to sign up for thefacebook. College students, alumni and faculty can join thefacebook for free, but the site is devoted to social networking for the college-age crowd.

"It is useful in that it provides a wealth of information about college students at your particular school, and it is fun in that any user can browse around and see the profile created by other students," Hughes said.

When users sign up, they don't join one large social network. Instead, they affiliate themselves with a specific branch of the site that includes people from their school only. When people from other branch sites view other listings, it automatically displays which branch everyone belongs to.

There are also privacy settings that adjust who can see your information and how much of it. Out of such a large network you would think that there would be some abuse, however, privacy issues have been few and far between, Hughes said.

Users can search other people's profiles, check out photos to see how their friends have changed since high school, and even look at photos of a friend of a friend if they want to meet. Everyone in thefacebook is connected, and users can search for people by their name, year, courses or by other friends.

See FACEBOOK Page 8

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See FACEBOOK Page 8
Meet the Staff
Why we do what we do

Kristie A. Martinez,
Editor
Age: 21
Major: Journalism
I am creative and help others craft stories in words, pictures and design. It's rewarding to work hard at something with other people who work just as hard and even harder than I do.

Anthony J. Salzberg, Assignment Editor
Age: 24
Major: Journalism-Master's
I enjoy the art of communication.

Jacqueline Ferris,
Graphics Editor
Age: 21
Major: Journalism
I do what I do because I enjoy doing it. Should there be another reason?

Jimi Grinaker, Photo Editor
Age: 22
Major: Political Science
Minor: Journalism
I love photography and freeing people from ignorance.

Irena Milasinovic,
Features Editor
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Major: Journalism
I don't think there's anything else I'd rather do than journalism.

Genessa Poth, Staff Writer
Age: 23
Major: Journalism
I enjoy writing stories about interesting people, trends, and events. Employers often look for real-world experience. Working for the paper has given me just that.

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Age: 23
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I like talking to different people and finding out what's going on around campus. I crave information and love to tell people about what's going on and The Crow's Nest allows me to do that.

Michelle Bocchino,
Advertising Manager
Age: 23
Major: Journalism
Besides being a USF student, I've been working part-time for 6 years at an advertising magazine, so I wanted to bring my knowledge to The Crow's Nest to help increase advertising content and revenue.

Paul Nguyen,
Photographer
Age: 21
Major: Journalism Minor: Studio Art
I want to gain practical experience shooting events, and also show people that I can take good photos. So if you need a photographer, I'm your man.

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From visits by foreign dignitaries to residence hall groundbreaking, it was an event-filled year for USF St. Pete. Our timeline recaps some of the major happenings.

September 20
Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, Nilo Cruz visits campus to kick off National Hispanic Heritage Month.

November 17
University geography departments and geography organizations celebrate Sixth Annual Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day.

October 16
USF Homecoming Football Game

October 6
St. Petersburg Times political columnist Howard Troxler, speaks on campus.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>November 2</strong></th>
<th><strong>March 4</strong></th>
<th><strong>March 9</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Election Night, George W. Bush is re-elected as president. First time an election was covered live by The Crow’s Nest.</td>
<td>The first benefit production of “The Vagina Monologues” is held on campus.</td>
<td>Student Government revises its constitution to extend member terms from a semester to a year.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>January 10</strong></th>
<th><strong>January 28</strong></th>
<th><strong>March 25</strong></th>
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<td>First Day of Spring 2005 semester.</td>
<td>The Crow’s Nest goes weekly for the first time in its history.</td>
<td>Tavern on the Green has its tenth annual Crawfish Boil.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>December</strong></th>
<th><strong>February</strong></th>
<th><strong>March</strong></th>
<th><strong>April</strong></th>
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<td><strong>February 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Feb. 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Feb. 23</strong></td>
<td><strong>April 3-5</strong></td>
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<td>Lecturer Naomi Tutu and St. Petersburg dance troupe Dundu Dole visit campus to kick off Black History Month.</td>
<td>USF Faculty Senate revises professor-student dating policy, forbidding faculty from dating students they supervise (including those they teach, advise or have as assistants).</td>
<td>The Grimes Theatre Group visits campus to present its dramatic civil rights play, “The Meeting,” for the first time in Florida.</td>
<td>Delegation of six Indonesian women political leaders visits USF St. Petersburg as part of efforts to help Indonesia increase the number of women in its national legislature to 30 percent.</td>
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<th><strong>December 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>March 30</strong></th>
<th><strong>March 30</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Bayfront Arena is torn down to make way for the new Salvador Dali Museum.</td>
<td>Terri Schiavo dies.</td>
<td>USF St. Petersburg breaks ground for first residence hall.</td>
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<th><strong>Dec. 14</strong></th>
<th><strong>March 30</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Peterson, who was convicted for the murder of his wife Laci and their unborn child, is sentenced to death.</td>
<td>USF St. Petersburg breaks ground for first residence hall.</td>
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'Kung Fu Hustle':
an epic comedy by Chow

Matt Scalici
The Crimson White (U. Alabama) (U-WIRE)
TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - If there's one thing director/star Stephen Chow does well, it's throwing convention to the wind.

His last film, "Shooliu Soccer," was the most successful action-comedy in Chinese history, and it gained a large cult following in the United States when Miramax released it in 2004. "Shooliu Soccer" worked because it rejected conventional wisdom about movies involving sports, martial arts action and slapstick comedy.

In Chow's latest film, "Kung Fu Hustle," he takes his rejection of convention to a whole new level. The film, mixing traditional Chinese martial arts and Western-style slapstick, is a hilarious send-up of the movie "The Matrix." And the movie is a groundbreaking film in its own right.

"Kung Fu Hustle" begins in a small Chinese village, where a young boy named "Buddy" is about to become a young man. But his life is turned upside down when an evil gang, led by a man named "The Boss," invades the village.

Buddy, who dreams of becoming a Kung Fu master, is forced to join forces with a group of outcasts led by "Gallon," a master Kung Fu fighter. Together, they take on the evil gang and save the village.

"Kung Fu Hustle" is a film that is as much about friendship as it is about action. The characters, who are all different and unique in their own way, learn to work together and overcome their differences.

The film is also a wonderful tribute to the classic Kung Fu movies of the 1970s and 1980s. The action scenes are choreographed with a level of skill that is truly impressive, and the film's use of wire effects and computer-generated imagery is a testament to the filmmakers' dedication to creating a truly cinematic experience.

"Kung Fu Hustle" is a film that is not just entertaining, but also heart-warming. It's a film that will make you laugh, cry, and think about the true meaning of friendship.

Restaurant Review
By Christina Castellano

Midtown Sundries, at St. Pete's eatery at 200 First Ave. N., combines the energy of a sports bar with the comfortable atmosphere of a family restaurant. Patrons can enjoy a meal while catching the latest sports events on the televisions located in the four corners of each dining area, or take a break from munching and head to the billiard room where dart boards and three pool tables tempt idle hands.

Midtown thrives on an inconspicuous corner in downtown St. Pete business district. During the week, lunchtime caters to the moles of hungry businessmen and women who either eat in or take out. A medley of pop and rock songs filter through the constant, boisterous chatter of happy patrons and the clanging of large dishes carrying tempting foods. Sea-faring in or take out. A medley of pop and rock songs filter through idle hands.

The affordable prices and satisfying foods make Midtown a local favorite. The extensive menu provides a multitude of options that guarantee a viable choice for any picky eater. The burgers ($6.50) are grilled to perfection, the heaping salads ($7.50) are fresh and crisp, and the colossal baked potatoes ($6.25) muddled with oozing cheddar cheese and salty bacon give a whole new meaning to comfort food. All meats are seasoned to suit your palate, as if you're not in the mood for french fries, burger and sandwich sides also include the option of soup, salad, cole slaw or chips. If you're in need of more fancy fare, try the fried herb battered jumbo shrimp ($12) or a plate of sizzling fajitas ($11.95).

Whatever you do, don't skip dessert. For a complete Midtown experience, try the hot fudge sauce and macaroons ($4.50). At the bottom of a massive glass dish sits a giant, warm and gooey brownie topped with huge scoops of vanilla ice cream. It's topped with whipped cream dizzled with hot fudge sauce and completed with plump macaroons cherries. Order one and share this colossal dessert with two of your best buddies.

History

- April 29, 1967 - Arenta Franklin releases "Respect."
- April 30, 1992 - Mr. Potato Head becomes the first toy advertised on TV
- May 1, 1961 - The Pulitzer Prize is awarded to Harper Lee for "To Kill a Mockingbird."
- May 2, 1902 - "A Trip to the Moon," first science fiction film, is released.
- May 3, 1963 - Martin Luther King Jr. delivers "I have a dream" speech.
- May 4, 1976 - Kiss performs their first concert.
- May 5, 1997 - Final episode of "Married With Children" airs on Fox.

Source: www.historyorb.com
Compiled by Wendy Owen

"Guess Who" doesn't compare?

Movie Review
By Wendy Owen

- Ashton Kutcher steps in as the Sydney Poitier role for the comedic remake of "1967's "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?"

"Guess Who" stars Ashton Kutcher and Bernie Mac in a remake of the 1967 classic "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" starring Sydney Poitier and Katherine Hepburn. Thankfully, this movie repeats little of the classic version except that it is about a biracial couple and their parent's reaction to the relationship.

Considered on their own terms, these movies are both quite good. The classic version took on the topic of what was then a taboo relationship as a serious drama, while the new version is a comedy. One of the reasons that "Guess Who" works so well is because it strays from the original, from the cast to the setting to the tone of the film. If this movie tried to recreate the tension and important message that was made by the original, it would have failed.

Good teen idol Ashton Kutcher plays the part of Simon Green, the white boyfriend of Theresa Jones (Zoe Saldana), who is white, Theresa and Simon live together and are going home to meet Theresa's parents. They are also going to announce that they plan to marry. Even though Theresa doesn't think that there will be a problem, trouble ensues.

Theresa's father, Percy Jones (Bernie Mac), is expecting his daughter to bring home someone who looks more like Denzel Washington than Kelsey. Even though Percy has done a thorough background check on Simon and liked what he saw, meeting him changed his point of view. From then on, Simon and Percy but heads over everything from social status to racial jokes.

While not one A-list actor graces this film, it still delivers a funny and entertaining story. Even though this is a remake, "Guess Who" doesn't have all of the cookie-cutter clichés and twists that you may find in other romantic comedies. In all honesty, the physical comedy between Kutcher and Mac is probably the best aspect of this film. Mac is very believable as the overbearing, tyrannical behemoth father and Kutcher plays the perfect part of the eager-to-please boyfriend.

Ultimately, I don't foresee this movie winning any awards, but it's great entertainment to go along with a pizza on a Friday night. "Guess Who" doesn't leave you feeling all icky and uncomfortable, but your hefty may hurt a little from laughing. Even though "Guess Who" is no cinematic masterpiece, its predecessor was. "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" was nominated for 10 academy awards in 1967. The film brought home the award for best original screenplay and Katherine Hepburn was awarded best actress. Hepburn had not won an academy award in over 30 years at that point.

Even though Hepburn and Spencer Tracy are the bigger name stars of that film, it is Sydney Poitier's portrayal of John, the boyfriend, that steals the show. Poitier was and is one of the finest actors of his day, starting in films like "To Sir, With Love" and "In the Heat of the Night." Unlike Kutcher's character in the remake, John is a successful and well respect ed doctor. The way that Poitier carries himself in the film is very convincing and powerful.

By watching the movie for a few minutes, it becomes blatantly obvious how times have changed. The character of Josephine, the daughter, (played by Hepburn's real-life niece Katherine Houghton) lovingly describes her husband-to-be John as a "nigger." Today's standards would consider that an unacceptable label, but it is used freely throughout the film. Furthermore, John and Josephine are met with far more hostility by the outside world in this film than their counterparts are in the current version.

In the end, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" is hopefully an outdated film as social standards are concerned. When it was released in 1967, biracial couples were far less accepted by society. While biracial couples still face a great deal of societal stress today, it is much less of an issue than it was 40 years ago. In many ways, that is why "Guess Who" works better as a comedy than as a drama. Neither film is for everyone, but both still speak volumes about a seldom talked about issue.

Rated PG-13, 96 minutes
Grade: B-
Join The Crow's Nest staff!

All positions are open for the Fall 2005-Spring 2006 school year, including:

- Editor (must hold the position for Fall 2005 and Spring 2006)
- Assistant Editor
- Graphics editor
- Photographer (2 positions open)
- Senior Staff Writer (2 positions open)
- Staff Writer (4 positions open)

To apply, please write a letter (no longer than one page) describing your strengths, experience and why you want to work for The Crow's Nest. Include your resume and contact information.

Classifieds

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!
April, May & June Grads:

Lock your federal student loan interest rates at 2.875% before July 1st! Avoid the 1.7% increase on all unconsolidated loans!

Also, use UPROMISE to help pay back your student loans! Plus, you can reduce your loan repayment up to 70%!

For more info:
Call Carlos at Student Funding Services 1-800-449-8680, ext. 102
A Nonprofit Organization

Roommate Wanted:
Female seeking same to share a 3/2 condo in North East St. Pete near Raymond James Financial. It is centrally located to reach downtown St. Pete, Tampa, and the beaches. 3rd room can be used as office or we could get another roommate to lower costs! $490 + split utilities.

Call (813) 334-1421 for more information.

HELP WANTED:
Major concert promoter, just relocated to area, seeks part time administrative assistant to perform office related tasks. Please contact 727-867-0506.
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Be among the first students to experience this exclusive campus lifestyle.

Currently enrolled USF St. Petersburg students can obtain an application online for Residence Hall One May 1, 2005!*

Slated to open Fall 2006, the seven-story residence hall offers students apartment-style living right on campus. Spaces are limited: apply early.

To apply, visit our web site at www.stpt.usf.edu.
For more information: e-mail housing@stpt.usf.edu, or contact Residence Life at (727) 553-4162.
*Confirmation of housing is scheduled for May 2006.

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Above: Jesse and Manny Wilson, officers of the National Security and Defense Research Association, present research focusing on national defense and terrorism during the Tomorrow's Leaders Symposium held Tuesday, April 19 in Davis Lobby. The symposium featured student and faculty research and projects.

Right: Jason Kindt sets up a robot he constructed and displayed during the Tomorrow's Leaders Symposium held Tuesday, April 19 in Davis Lobby.

Above: Curtis Tarver, president of the USF honor society, Omicron Delta Kappa, says a few inspiring words during the induction of new members on April 22. Kat Reed, the adviser of ODK, lights five candles as part the traditional induction ceremony.

Left: Patrons help themselves to Orange Blossoms' catered food during the annual Leadership Banquet held at the Campus Activities Center on April 22.

The University Singers perform during the Tomorrow's Leaders Symposium held Tuesday, April 19, in Davis Lobby. The group sang both sacred and secular music at the symposium, which showcased student research projects.

Photos by Jim Glioker
Photos by Poul Nguyen

Sound Off

What are you doing this summer?

“I'm taking a few classes, and I'm going to Bush Gardens to ride their new roller coaster.”
Jordan Shane, 20, sophomore

“Taking a Semester-A class, then I'm going to meet up with my brother in Japan.”
Christina Edenfield, 19, freshman

“I'm going to take some summer courses, work, and go on vacation in North Carolina and the (Florida) Keys.”
Robbie Shafer, 18, freshman