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* SF St. Petersburg hosted GIS Day 2005, Wednesday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Campus Activities Center as part of Geography Awareness Week, which is sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

This year marked the seventh annual GIS Day, and the second time it has been held at USF St. Petersburg.

GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Day is a global event for thousands of users of GIS technology to educate millions of people about how geography affects their lives.

Some fields that include GIS marketing are ecology, criminology, public health, disaster management, political science, meteorology, economics, statistics, applied science, and journalism.

Booths at the CAC included such organizations as the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office, US. Geological Survey, the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, and the National Weather Service.

“GIS is really cool,” said Dave Reed of the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, which also had a booth. “[There are] a lot of careers in GIS. It definitely caught on as a hot career to get into.”

In addition to the booths, a number of speakers talked about the significance of GIS technology.

Assistant Professor William Ruefle’s Crime Analysis and Mapping Class attended the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office presentation. The students were shown how the county uses GIS to map out crime hot spots, sexual offenders, evacuation routes and much more – with the intent to keep citizens safe.

According to the Fish and Wildlife Research Commission, a geographic information system is a state-of-the-art computer system that can store, integrate and display a variety of information that describes places and activities on the Earth’s surface.

Manatee County Government, Wilson Miller, Cognocarta GIS, the College of Marine Science, and the Pinellas County Department of Environmental Management, Environmental Lands division also had exhibits.

While each group uses GIS in one form or another, many have the same basic uses for it, such as looking at coastlines before and after hurricanes and keeping track of endangered animals and their habitats.

GIS has also been used to save lives.

Amanda Frick of the National Marine Fisheries Service said the organization can estimate where major flooding will occur by determining elevations, and can therefore help people by knowing the

Mayor discusses USFSP’s future

by Genessa Poth
& Christina Castellana

Last week, Mayor Rick Baker addressed a number of issues facing the city and USF St. Petersburg, and made it clear that the campus’ future growth needs to be a top priority for its leaders.

The City of St. Petersburg re-elected Mayor Rick Baker by a landslide in the best showing by a candidate in a mayoral election since 1989. Baker claimed 70 percent of the votes for the election, which was held on Nov. 8.

Baker voiced his approval of USF St. Petersburg’s recent expansion efforts but added that much work is left to be done.

“You know in the past, USF St. Petersburg has not received, I think, an appropriate share of the resources out of the university,” Baker said. “We have not had the expansion in this campus. They’re starting to take some steps to work towards that but I think we still have a long way to go.”

Baker would like to see the university step up its preparation for its future growth.

“I frankly think the university ought to be acquiring land in the South Bayboro area for future expansion, which is not being done right now,” Baker said. “But I am pleased with the buildings that are underway. I think the university has the potential of affecting the city very positively as long as it is growing and it’s active and vibrant. I think we need to see more growth over here. I think we’ve improved that somewhat in the past, but I think we’re not there yet.”

When asked if there was anything he wanted to relay to the USFSP community, Baker said that he wanted to applaud the former dean of the College of Business, Ron Hill, for his efforts to work with Midtown and with local schools like Maximo Elementary.

“It’s great to see someone in a leadership position at the university make such a commitment to the city,” Baker said. “I was disappointed to hear that he’s not going to be in the College of Business. It’s been unclear to me why that is the case. I would hope that if it’s because he decided that he wanted to do other things that he would reconsider that because I think having him in a leadership role in the College of Business has been a positive thing for the city as well as the university.”

Regarding Gov. Jeb Bush’s veto of a student fee to raise money for a student center, Baker said that he understood the need for a student fee to raise money for a student center, but that the university must brainstorm to make the student center
Journalism profs meet with Georgian mayors

by RITA FLOREZ
contributing writer

Last Thursday, two professors from the Department of Journalism and Media Studies spoke with five mayors from the country of Georgia about the relationship between the press and government. The meeting took place in the journalism department’s conference room in the Florida Center for Teachers.

The five men, Berdo Ananashvili, Gederdzi Berberashvili, Zaza Bereidze, Levan Kokorashvili and Tamaz Petriashvili, were accompanied by two interpreters who translated the conversation about press relations.

"Professors ... spoke with five mayors from the country of Georgia about the relationship between the press and government." The U.S. State Department brought the mayors from Georgia, formerly of the U.S.S.R. until 1990, so they could learn more about the American structure of government, media relations and different ways of attracting business interests and tourism.

Georgia is located on the east coast of the Black Sea, along the northern border of Turkey. Associate Professor Robert Dardenne noted that this was the first group of non-journalists the State Department has brought to the journalism department in five years.

Before talking about American press-government relations, the mayors, who are the equivalent of governors in their country, gave an overview of relations between media and the government.

“There are lots of problem connected to free speech [in Georgia],” Petriashvili, mayor of Akhalkalakha and owner of a local TV station said in his native Georgian language. “Journalists are not trained properly. There is no code of ethics. [Reporters] never present both sides. They misrepresent the person or issue.” Petriashvili called for a code of ethics for media workers in Georgia.

Later in the conversation, professor and journalism law expert Mike Killenberg talked about the adversarial relationship between the American press and the U.S. government.

"The press and government", he said "understand their respective roles.”

When the discussion turned to how American media cover international news, International Studies Director Lisa Kahn described American news as localized to the point where analysis is left out. Despite their problems with a press they described as being sensational, the mayors said that the average Georgian knows more about what goes on inside the United States than the average American.

William Richardson

Monday - Dec. 13
2 - 3:15 p.m.: Open forum with USPS and A&P staff
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.: Meet with Arts & Sciences staff
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.: Student forum
10:30 - 3 p.m.: Open forum

Steven Haggblom

Monday - Dec. 12
2 - 3:15 p.m.: Open forum with Arts & Sciences faculty
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.: Meet with Arts & Sciences staff
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.: Student forum
10:30 - 3 p.m.: Open forum

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"Countdown" ready for take off

by ANTHONY SALVEGGI

"Countdown," as it title suggests, counts down the top five news stories of the day interspersed with the straight news are lighter segments - including "Oddball," "Countdown Puppet Theater," and "Worst Person in the World" - that cleanse the journalistic palate (to paraphrase Olbermann). "Countdown"'s success is due to Olbermann's ability to shift between goofball having a laugh with the audience and serious anchor.

Case in point: Last week, Washington Post editor Bob Woodward came forward and said that he had been leaked Valerie Plame's identity by an administration official before Lewis Libby is alleged to have done the same. Libby's lawyer saw this as some kind of moment of vindication for his client. He ripped into Special Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald as if Fitzgerald had made a monumental blunder by suggesting in a press conference that Libby was the first source to have revealed Plame's identity. To his credit, Olbermann made two necessary observations. No less than three times, he told the viewing audience that Fitzgerald actually said that Libby was the first known official to have mentioned Plame's identity to a reporter.

More significantly, Olbermann noted that Libby was not being indicted for leaking the name of a CIA operative. He's under indictment for perjury before the grand jury. As goofy as Olbermann can be - and he can, as when he did a spit-take after watching a video for a horrible song called "Bush Was Right" - he treats the news as it matters. And it's nice to see a news host give the Fox conservatives a taste of their own glib medicine.

How good is Olbermann? Well, the fact that there's a conservative blog called "Olbermann Watch" that tracks each episode of "Countdown" proves he must be doing something right.

Are you a grammar geek?

Can you recite the AP Stylebook?

Do you love to learning things about other people's lives?

WE NEED YOU
Campus laughs

Two talented comedians made Comedy Night an enjoyable diversion

by JUSTIN LOWERY
staff writer

Two up-and-coming comedians stopped by the campus last Friday for Comedy Night and provided some big laughs in front of a modest crowd at Davis Hall, room 130.

Before the show, I had my doubts: Only about three people arrived on time. I had heard last year's show was bad and I had never even heard of the comedians performing. But then people started showing up. I was told these aren't the same comedians from last year and that Schachter opened the show and got off to a rocky start. Many of his early jokes didn't go over too well but he had a knack for filling time between jokes that didn't work. After about ten minutes into his set, his material got a little fresher and funnier and he had three or four jokes that were just hilarious. His humor reminded me of the comedy of "Seinfeld" creator Larry David. It wasn't really about anything in particular but he made good use of his material. His joke about the codes under 20 ounce bottles of soda had me laughing for about five minutes straight. However, Schachter was the funnier performer this evening. She's been a comedian for six years and her experience showed as she engaged the audience more and worked hard for laughs. Even when her jokes didn't work, she usually found something funny to say. She had more energy and would do almost anything for a laugh. Sierk looks to be a comedic star in the making with great material ranging from lost pets to e-mail chain letters to exercising at the gym. A former actor and drama major at Syracuse University, Sierk has found her niche in comedy. "I've done a lot of bad plays but this is fun and a cool way to get on stage," Sierk said.

O & A
with John Husfield

Inside the head of the man who spins the campus Web

WEB 101 | USF
Webmaster: John Husfield
Help: Warren Vitt
Affiliate Coordinator: Katie Gage
address a computer issue in the historic Williams House.

Schachter's upstart office in the Williams House offers a rich contrast to the nature of his work. Amidst the dark wood decor of this historic home that rests along Second Avenue South, John Husfield is immersed daily in modern technology. Since January 2003, he has been the Webmaster for the USF St. Petersburg Web site, planning, implementing, and maintaining its functionality. With an educational background that includes a bachelor's degree in social science and a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer designation, Husfield is also responsible for supporting the 40 and growing campus contributors who need assistance adding content to their respective Web pages.

The Crow's Nest sat down with Husfield to learn more about what he does and his personal interests.

Husfield: What do you do in your spare time?
Crow's Nest: What was the last movie you saw?

Husfield: "Gangs of New York." It was hard to watch but I did like it because of its historical value.
Crow's Nest: What book are you currently reading?

Husfield: Internet Information Server 6.0 for Windows 2003. We'll be moving to IIS 6 someday and I want to be prepared.

Crow's Nest: What's the main project you are working on now?

Husfield: Hobson's Enrollment Recruitment Management Systems. It's a system that allows enrollment services to communicate with prospective students in an organized and highly targeted way. A variety of people from Enrollment and University Relations are working on it.

Crow's Nest: What's the main project you are working on now?

Husfield: I want Web site to be usable and easy to navigate and get information that it will be in all the little thin Web site easily.

Crow's Nest: To give the USF site a unified look.

Husfield: We a goal set out by Advisory Committee to be consistent look and to provide a consistent look as well as providing it...
The Michael Southern Band
performs at Harborside

A feast of diversity
by WENDY OWEN
senior staff writer

The aroma of collards, baklava, stuffed shells, curried chicken and nearly 50 other ethnic dishes permeated the air around Davis Hall, room 130 last Wednesday during the Second Annual Multicultural Feast. Students, faculty and staff came together to sample a variety of foods representative of the diversity at USF St. Petersburg.

White plates were piled high and most of the tastiest dishes disappeared early on. The Multicultural Feast exposed people to new dishes from around the world and helped students and faculty explore their own cultures and relationships with food.

A line of people stretched outside the door for this lunchtime smorgasbord. Festivities were kicked off by sombrero-clad Steve Marshall, the director of Multicultural Affairs. Marshall recited an Iroquois thanksgiving poem in honor of Native American Heritage Month before commencing the meal.

"This poem is my contribution to American Indian Heritage Month since there are no dishes represented here today," said Marshall.

Marshall also introduced the guest speaker of the event, Emmanuel Roux. Roux is the owner and manager of The Garden restaurant on Central Avenue and provided a great deal of food for the event. He also gave a speech about the relationship of food to geography and culture.

"Food, its preparation and its consumption is cemented in culture. Food is the vital link between the land and us. The history of food is the history of mankind," said Roux.

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Husfield: A significant amount of my spare time is devoted to keeping current with Web technologies. I spend a couple of hours on the weekends and a couple of hours every night looking at Web technologies.

Husfield: I'm working toward a M.A., in educational technology. Ultimately I would like to work toward being an education technologist designing learning systems

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Sailing team makes best-ever showing

by TAMMY BARTHLETT
staff writer

The USF sailing team posted its best-ever performances at two different Atlantic Coast Championship events Nov. 12-13, finishing sixth overall in both.

Coed teammates junior Jesse King and freshman Reali and Ashley Reynolds had a good showing at the teams that competed.

The women's team also had something to do with the excitement of American Championships in Honolulu Nov. 18-20. The Crew's Nest will have those results in its final issue of the fall semester.

USF FOOTBALL
Bulls get sloppy win over Bearcats
Penalties, bowl talk irritate coach

by TAMMY BARTHLETT
staff writer

The USF Bulls continued their Bowl Championship Series run Saturday, beating Big East rival Cincinnati Bearcats 31-16. The victory means the Bulls are now bowl eligible. But if they play next week, the Bowl Series will take advantage of another fumble deep in Cincinnati territory.

The Bulls looked sluggish for much of the game until the third quarter. They also had trouble finishing higher than other ranked teams, they will likely move up in the next Sailing World college poll.

Team member and Olympic hopeful Paige Railey will represent USF at the Intercollegiate Sailing Association/Vanguard Singlehanded North American Championships in Honolulu Nov. 18-20. The Crew's Nest will have those results in its final issue of the fall semester.
GIS DAY

(from page 1)

where to send aid in the event of a disaster. Michael Holmes of the USGS Center for Coastal and Watershed Studies said, “[People] use our information for predicting damage from hurricanes.” GIS is also used to help businesses choose the best locations for their stores or headquarter. Cognacarta LIS, which provides mapping and geographical analysis, has several clients including Publix, which it provides with maps of the population, locations of competitors and traffic flow. GIS mapping can also track minute movement and overlay red tide movement. It can also map water and overlay a map of wind currents. GIS thus

USGS GIS DAY said, “GIS is also used to help

analyze, has several GIS, locations of competitors

locations for their stores or

GIS, information for predicting

many different maps at

once and see how they

GIS mapping can also

track minute movements

and overlay red tide move

ment. It can also map

water and overlay a map

of wind currents. GIS thus

allows one to look at

many different maps at

once and see how they

relate to one another. The USF College of

Marine Science uses GIS with P.O.R.T.S., the

Tampa Bay Physical

Oceanographic Real-Time

System. Measurements are

taken every six minutes

from buoys in the bay. The

data is then combined

with information from

agencies and other

universities to make a

complete regional map of

the Florida coastline.

GIS Day was sponsored by the National

Geographic Society, the Association of American

Geographers, UCGIS (University Consortium of

Geographic Information Science), United States


Microsystems, and ESRI, a GIS and mapping

software company based in California.

FOOTBALL

(from page 6)

ended their last drive of the game with a 27-yard field goal.

Hall gained 101 yards on 29 carries. Quarterback Pat Julmiste went 12 for 21 for 154 yards. He spread the ball around more of the game, throwing to seven different receivers.

Coach Leavitt was disappointed with the team’s play and the score.

I’m disappointed with 31 points,” he said. “I guess that’s a good thing.”

Next up for the Bulls is a road game at Connecticut for what is expected to be a very cold game. Leavitt stressed no BCS or bowl talk until the season is over. “I wanna play better football, not think about bowls,” he said.

HONORING

“The Man in Black”

by WENDY OWEN

Even after his death, Johnny Cash remains a powerful icon with songs that would be tough for anyone to fill. Somehow, Joaquin Phoenix manages to capture the essence of “The Man in Black” in the new biopic “Walk the Line.”

The film explores the life of one of the most innovative musicians that has ever lived. Sure to be a contender as one of the best films of 2005, “Walk the Line” has a great cast in what appears to be an honest account of Cash’s early days on the country circuit.

Touring with greats like Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley and future wife, June Carter, Cash rose quickly to fame and then crashed hard.

Directed by James Mangold (“Kate and Leopold,” “Identity”), “Walk the Line” is his best work yet, and hopefully is a precursor for even better work to come.

In a way, this was also a labor of love for the families of the celebrities depicted in the film. Produced by Carter’s and Cash’s son, the movie is based on Cash’s autobiography. There is even a cameo of Shooter Jennings portraying his father, legend Waylon Jennings.

It would be very difficult for anyone in Hollywood other than Phoenix to give as powerful a portrayal of Cash. Phoenix clearly did his homework and got Cash’s persona down to a science, from his gutteral twang to his body language and expressions. He even learned to play the guitar for this role. As June Carter, Reese Witherspoon is truly dynamic, albeit a cuter version of the spunky songstress.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of “Walk the Line” is the fact that Witherspoon and Phoenix were actually singing in every scene of the film. I was impressed that they were able to not only carry a tune, but also emulate the styles of their well-known characters. Aside from the worst Elvis Presley portrayal I have ever seen on film, “Walk the Line” is a must-see. While it’s been under fire for being a formulaic biography that only shows Cash’s dark side, the dramatic stuff is what makes for good cinema. Even if you are not a country fan, “Walk the Line” will have you jonesin’ for Cash tunes long after the credits have rolled.

My rating: 5 BULLS

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(from page 1)

a reality, but isn’t sure exactly what the solution is.

“We should have a student center,” said Baker.

“We’ve had a student center in Tampa for many, many, many years. Perhaps, if the university had had the focus before now, we’d already have a student center. So I support having one and I think the university needs to figure out a way to do it.”

Baker said that hurdles are inevitable, but must be overcome in order to achieve success.

“Every single thing that you try to do is going to have obstacles to doing it,” Baker said. “The key is not letting the obstacles get in your way. Every time you set an objective to do something, you have to go after it and as the obstacles come you deal with it and push your way through.”

Baker campaigned on a variety of issues but focused on four major goals for the city: continuing to improve public safety, continuing to improve neighborhoods, continuing to work on economic development, especially in Midtown, and continuing the efforts in the city’s public schools.

“We think people generally are pleased with the direction of the city, and the message here is that they want us to continue,” Baker said.

Baker, a Republican, ran a non-partisan campaign against Democrat Ed Helm. During his first term, he reached out to all sectors of the city but concentrated a good portion of the city’s resources on south St. Petersburg, where much of the black community resides.

“Our objective is very simple in Midtown and that’s to make our city safer so that all parts of our city are nice places to live where people have accommoda
tions and services are available like grocery stores, banks, post offices and things like that,” Baker said. “Equally important is that they’re safe places and that they’re good places for kids to grow up.”

Addressing education, Baker said that 38 percent of the city’s public schools improved a letter grade last year, compared to the state’s overall improvement of 10 percent.

“We’re now progressing at four times the state rate, which I’m very proud of,” Baker said. “I want to continue that effort. My objective over the next four years would be that every elementary school in the city could become an ‘A’ school. And I think we have a possibility of doing that.”
Giving thanks

by CHRISTINA CASTELLANA
staff writer

USF St. Petersburg students who earned scholarships through the university and their benefactors were honored last Friday during a Scholarship Luncheon held in the Campus Activities Center.

The program allowed time for students to meet and mingle with the donors of their respective scholarships, and gave faculty and staff the opportunity to express their gratitude and appreciation to the scholarship sponsors.

Regional Chancellor Karen A. White and Regional Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Mark Durand recognized the donors' generosity and their support for students' academic careers. Durand said that sponsors are key in helping "create the next generation of thinkers."

Three scholarship recipients who exemplified outstanding academic achievement had the opportunity to take the podium and comment on how their lives have changed with the help of their respective scholarships:

Santi Villamaria, Julia Pauline Mansfield Scholarship, Andrea Saldalic, Lowell E. Davis Endowed Scholarship and Samantha Bevve, Eliason Humanities and Liberal Arts Scholarship. The students spoke briefly to convey their gratitude for the awards and acknowledged that their successes also derived from the dedication and support of USFSP faculty and staff.

Executive Director of Development Thomas Piazze, master of ceremonies for the event, said "The purpose of the Scholarship Luncheon is to honor student scholarship recipients and recognize and thank individual and corporate donors who made private gifts in support of the university's Scholarship Program."

Saday Tchiderer, campus events coordinator, added that it is important "for donors to know that by their support, they really do make a difference in the lives of students."

Unlike previous years' events, this year's luncheon included recipients' families and spouses, so faculty and scholarship sponsors could recognize their efforts in helping their loved ones achieve academic success.

"I hope my academic record reflects the faith placed in my abilities."

Samantha Bevve
Eliason Humanities and Liberal Arts Scholarship recipient

"To those benevolent individuals who have chosen to invest in USF students, I commend you all."

Santi Villamaria
Julia Pauline Mansfield Scholarship recipient

"The help you are giving me is helping to fulfill my dream of making a difference in the world."

Andrea Saldalic
Lowell E. Davis Scholarship recipient

The Office of Financial Aid reports that 161 students have received scholarship money equaling $239,930 for the 2005-2006 academic year.

The tradition of honoring USFSP scholarship recipients at a separate luncheon began in 1998.

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For more information email housing@stpt.usf.edu, or contact Residence Life at (727) 553-4162.

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