Crow's Nest: 2017: 02: 20

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Lights, camera, action: Campus MovieFest Returns

By Tori Jansen
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CAMPUS MOVIEFEST comes to USF St. Petersburg in less than a week. Whether you’re an aspiring filmmaker or simply looking for a creative outlet, this event is an opportunity to show off your talents. Founded in 2001 by four college students at Emory University, Campus MovieFest has reached 30 colleges, awarding over $2 million worth of prizes.

The rules of the competition are simple. Contestants have one week to create their movie with the equipment that the MovieFest staff provides. Professional cameras, microphones, Apple MacBook Pros and hard drives are provided on a first come, first serve basis.

The film can be on any topic, as long as the final product is not over five minutes long. While the teams may write scripts and cast for additional members before the event officially starts, filming is forbidden until Wednesday, Feb. 22. Afterwards, students have until Feb. 28 to shoot and edit their movies.

Anyone can act in the film, with the only requirement being that the people designing or capturing the movie must be USF students. Filming crews are also allowed to submit more than one video. Several of these films and their creators may be nominated for titles, such as the Best Actor and Best Documentary, but only four pieces will be chosen as the “Best of the Best,” which will be determined by the Campus MovieFest staff. This year, the main awards are “Best Story,” “Best Director,” “Best Picture,” and “Best Sound.”

Along with bagging rights and trophies, the winners will be able to promote their films online and at future Campus MovieFest events.

Students to Campaign for SG Elections

By Devin Rodriguez	drudovez@gmail.com

FOR THE past few years, Student Government elections have had a meager turnout. Last year, only 340 students voted in the election, less than eight percent of the student body.

Now, poised to open Feb. 27 and run until March 2, Student Government elections will begin a new era.

Students will be able to vote inside the Reel or online through USFSP’s OrgSync page. On the ticket are three candidates for the office of student body president, David Thompson, Madeline Friese and Sean Cornell. There will be a debate for the candidates held Thursday, Feb. 23 in the USC Ballrooms mopeds.

The general senate election pits 13 candidates for 15 seats. Students can vote for 10 different senators on the ticket. The senate members must get more than 25 votes to earn their seat.

Laraine Ruiz, acting student president, urged students to seriously consider voting for candidates they feel will represent them well.

Those are the people who can advocate on their behalf in discussions with the administration,” Ruiz said. “It does make a difference when Student Government talks to administration. They want to know that we think in a certain way or are discussing university issues.”

After the president and vice president of Student Government resigned after lengthy leaves of absence, Student Government is forced to hold a special election. Whoever runs for the special election would only be in office until May. At that point, the president voted in during the general election would take the seat.

For more information about the president, vice president, senate candidates and legislation on the ballot turn to page 2.
These Senate candidates want you to actually go vote this time

By Devin Rodriguez, Ryan Callihan, Michael Moore Jr., and Ben Schlesinger

Student Senators

Student senators represent the student body as a whole. They are required to attend general assembly meetings and be apart of at least two unique senate committees. Senate members hold discussion regarding some important matters that influence student life on campus, and they help determine the money given to clubs and organizations for events throughout the year. Here are interviews with the candidates. They have been edited for length and clarity.

Name: Sherice Bramwell
Major: Environmental Science & Policy, minor in Economics
Year: Junior
Caribbean Cultural Exchange Club Vice President, former Treasurer, S.E.A.S member, International Student from Jamaica

"The main reason I want to be involved is because I want the campus to be a more sustainable, fight for sustainable changes and to help the campus to grow. Being an international student I would like to see the campus be more diverse."

"Being treasurer I learned how to deal with event requests and how to manage the clubs finances.""We’re college students, we’re the future of the country and the world. Seeing where we’re going environmentally, seeing that we have a president that doesn’t believe in climate change, there’s a lot of work to be done."

Name: Carter Goetzke
Major: Political Science
Year: Freshman
Intramural Sports

"I’ve been a part of sports. Intramural sports. Anytime there is something available for Pete Points I always attend those because I love being a part of the campus and getting to know people."

"I really want to incorporate more students into the campus. From what I’ve seen some people come out but a lot of people stay back. I want to get the synergy of the campus to be better."

"A lot of students want to leave this campus and go to Tampa and we need to be able to keep them here. I feel like they’re not experiencing the full St. Pete campus."

"I want to incorporate more team-building activities on campus.""

"I really want to make a change. Just going to the three hour meetings only two times might be enough, but to actually get to that extra level, I just go to the different meetings even though they’re not for Senate."

Name: Alana Todd
Major: (Double Major) Environmental Science/Anthropology
Year: Senior
Secretary of Sustainable Initiatives, Chair of Clean Energy and Resource Conservation Commission (CERC)

"We created our climate action plan which shows our steps to become carbon neutral by 2050 and we had the chancellor sign that back in early December. That’s our carbon commitment. I want CERC to switch gears to focus on resiliency."

"I want to keep bringing more efficiency projects to campus. I want to keep making sustainability an identity on this school. As we continue to become a bigger campus, I want us to be known for our environmental science and our sustainability."

"I don’t want people to assume that [sustainable initiatives] is the only thing that I think about. I want to represent the issues of all students on campus. It is something I’m very passionate about, but I want to represent everyone.""

Name: Emelie Morris
Major: Biology
Year: Junior
COMPASS P.E.R Coach, and incumbent senator on the programming committee

"We’re trying to work on a project where, instead of the plastic bags that the Reef uses, having a paper option instead."

"There are times where students with personal agendas can come out of the woodwork when things are going down and push their opinion on you. But we as student leaders are here to represent the entire student body and not just certain groups or demographics. Making sure that students all across the board are heard and not just catering to those that are most present."

"I definitely don’t want to make up people’s minds for them, but definitely just think of what type of leader you want to see and make sure whoever you are voting for embodies that."

Name: Daniel Hollander
Major: Global Business
Year: Freshman
Member of University Christian Fellowship Group & Intramural Sports

"I was involved in the church back home and was a leader for the youth group they had there. I was also able to go to four mission trips to Immokalee, Florida, and four mission trips to Belize. I emerged as a leader on those mission trips and that’s something I want to continue to do."

"If people want something to be done, I feel like I’m gonna get it done for them because I really care about their well-being and what they want."

"SG really needs to branch out beyond its meetings of finances and ideas. When you can connect with the people you can really hear from them on what they’re looking for on campus."

"Community are the most important people to reach because they are the majority of our campus. We really need to reach the commuters and that’s really a goal of mine."

Name: Sheena Catabihan
Major: Economics
Year: Freshman
Part of Education Committee for MAC, Volunteer for SG for Department of Affairs, Dad was in the military, Lived in Bahrain and Japan (graduated in Japan)

"My plan to attack a problem is always to listen to everyone at first and then bring out the points that can solve it."

"I really like how Student Government is doing recycling, the recycling bins. That’s personally important to me."

"When I think of myself, I think of someone that has been exposed to a lot of things because I’ve lived in so many different places. I’m more open-minded to certain things than someone who has lived here their whole life."

Name: J.W. Hendry
Major: Entrepreneurship
Year: Junior

"I’m a transfer student from St. Petersburg College and I want to be as involved as possible, so I felt that running for Student Government would be the best way to give back to the university and the students."

"The administration doesn’t always see eye-to-eye with the students and their wants, so I want to do my best to help the student."

"I don’t like how early the library closes. I’d like to see it open at least midnight on the weekdays."

"I plan on setting up booths during the week and making surveys asking students what they want to see changed on campus."

Name: Tiffany Porcelli
Major: Psychology
Year: Sophomore
COMPASS P.E.R coach

"I have a lot of leadership qualities and experience with diversity."

"I’m open to listening to what people want and helping with that."

"I know that I can make a difference, but it’s based on what the people want."

"I’m super passionate about diversity in general. I think this campus embodies that a lot."

"I think that I have a heart of gold and will be there for the student body."

Name: Albert Moreno III
Graduate Studies for a Master’s in Liberal Arts
Incumbent student senator, Veteran who has worked for the SVO and the chair of the appropriations committee

"More bang for the buck is what I want. I think we are frivoulsly spending money. I would go as far to say we are wasting money."

"I would like this university to offer a grant writing course as an exit requirement."

"I want computer coding to be offered as a language course. Coding is it’s own language and it is a stepping stone for the university to offer more."

"I want the students to be successful, period. I want you to leave here and get a career. Right now, I don’t think we’re in the market for that. We’re too focused on funnel students through."

Name: Antoinette Laviolette
Major: Political Science
Year: Junior

"I feel like the more I get involved, the more I’ll love [USFSP]."

"If I get elected, I want to work more toward building a place to study on campus because we don’t have 24/7 options here for students who want to study at 4 a.m. or for commuters."

"I’m a student just like them. It sounds cliche, but I definitely want to work toward putting their ideas in practice."
No seriously, go vote for Student Government on Feb. 27

By Devin Rodriguez, Ryan Callihan, Michael Moore Jr., and Ben Schlesinger

Student body president and vice president campaigns started Monday, Feb. 20. As leaders of the executive branch, the president is a fundamental role in the allocation of the activities and service fee budget.

The vice president heads communication between the student body and the rest of the executive branch.

Below are excerpts from interviews with the candidates. They have been edited for length and clarity.

David Thompson
Junior political science major
Prior SG experience: Former Deputy of Public Relations and Director of Communication

“We’re problem-solvers because there are a number of problems our campus is facing, specifically student academic success, social success and economic success. Within those three main issues there are a number of things we want to address. We want to expand student giving days. Especially for students who work, or commuter students, having those reading days we’ve seen provides a marked improvement. We currently have 2-3 reading days per semester, but we would like to expand that to a full week. We’d like to increase the services our library provides and the hours it is open.

We changed the way students are allowed to use this campus more affordable. Specifically, we want to find a way to make parking easier and cheaper. We’re also interested in utilizing sustainable initiatives to make things on campus more affordable.

The school is raising housing rates, but if you could decrease the cost of energy, say by placing solar window films, or placing LED lights inside of RHO you’re actually going to decrease the cost of maintaining the building which could offset the need for those housing increases.

Samuel Goetz
Freshman Global business major with a finance minor
Extracurriculars: Pledged Delta Sigma Pi and has worked on previous political campaigns, specifically lead the digital marketing team for state senator Darryl Rosenberg.
Prior SG experience: Senator

We have a large number of commuter students and their participation rates vary from on-campus students. A key integral part of participation is marketing, students don’t even know what’s going on. I would ask students to consider which candidate would give them the most. There are certain candidates that want to focus on athletics, others that want to focus on sustainability, but we are going to give you the whole pie and not just a piece of it.

Morrin’s duties were reduced last semester, when control of the campus recreation operation was assigned to interim associate director Greg Haverlock. Word of Morrin’s departure broke Thursday and came as a shock to student leaders, some of whom worked with him on an almost daily basis.

“It’s a year of sudden change. I got a call saying that I’d be Student Government president, and now this,” said Laraine Ruiz, who became acting president in August after president Ziya Kardas and his vice president took mysterious leaves of absence. Ruiz said that she had spoken with Morrin just days before receiving a call from Helton informing her of his exit.

“[Student Government members] had just seen him the other day,” said Ruiz. “We had plans and questions and he was going to help us get answers.”

Morrin played an instrumental role in the development of the campus during his time at USF St. Petersburg. Aside from being Student Government’s liaison to the campus administration, he helped guide the allocation of the activity and services budget, which last year totalled $3.4 million.

Morrin aided in the process of renovating the Student Life Center and negotiating the deal that brought the University Student Center to the campus, said Hector Santiago, acting Student Government vice president.

There was no explanation provided to faculty or staff either, said Christian Vila, coordinator for the leadership and student organization, who oversees events like Get On Board day and TEDxUSFSP, he also advises the student body vice president.

“Matt’s a great guy with a great personality. I had no qualms with him,” said Vila. He said that he and Isaacs would provide support for clubs and organizations in Morrin’s stead.

Sean Cornell
Senior finance major
Extracurriculars: Sailing team member, in pre-law so- ciety, Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honor society and a member of the university honors program

What I’ve experienced in terms of Student Govern- ment has been the organization funding, club funding and student organizations in the past process.

We have to drive change in terms of our funding and in terms of where we identify ourselves as a school. In order to give you the most qualified person to be vice president on this campus.

Our club sports are being restricted. We are going to need to find a way for athletics to become a part of our student life. I really like what Campus Rec. has done with our intramurals this year. Intramurals has had such a great turnout and it’s a lot of fun. If we are going to grow our sports, then figuring out a way to balance athletics, clubs and student organizations.

We love our school and we want to represent the students.

Junior health science major
Extracurriculars: Pre-med club and a wakeboarding team member, in Tampa

I wouldn’t go out of my way to say that I’m the most qualified person to be vice president on this campus. But the biggest thing for me is I don’t want to come off as a politician.

I just want to be a liaison for the issues or the things that students want to see resolved. I’ve been a student here for 3 years and it seems like we have the same problems all the time.

On campus housing is something we really need to work on. When students come here and tour the school they don’t tour the Hilton. Driving to the Tampa library is something students shouldn’t have to do to go study. The 24 hour thing is it, it’s almost adds to the college experience, being able to spend all night in the library.

I think transparency and communication are important. I want to be a vice president that’s open to ideas all the time. I’m here for the students. I’m not here to have vice president on my resume.

Maddeline Friese
Sophomore Environmental Science
Extracurriculars: Varity women’s sailing team. CER- CC, CC, club golf team and 4H club.
Prior SG experience: Spent first semester as historian, assistant and clerked meetings.

Currently, I’m serving as director of governmental affairs, which includes meeting with the Bulls in the Burg program. I also serve as a liaison between the campus and surrounding community.

One of my goals is to expand our partnerships to not only make students have the best college experience, but also to experience the downtown area. Maybe have bands playing–something to really engage the students with the downtown community and get them out there and supporting local businesses. I think being in this position prior has really equipped me to set up partnerships with a lot of business owners and the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce.

I also support our athletics and want to make it more of a priority. I want to provide more funding for intramural sports. I think it’s a great thing for students to be involved with.

I think students should vote for us because we will try the best to listen to what they want and truly deliver and also, having the experience that I’ve had I feel like I’m more in a position now to actually succeed at some of the goals, instead of just talking about them.

Eric Andrade
Freshman Biology major
CONTINUED FROM P1:

front. Organizations like the Student Environmental Awareness Society also contribute to keeping our waterfront clean.

Thompson frequently cleans out the harbor’s water goat, a buoy system set up to catch trash and debris from city runoff. The water goat is cleaned out weekly by student volunteers from SEAS, but heavy rains can warrant extra cleansings.

However, Thompson is not part of any club or fueled by eco-activism. “I just don’t like seeing it, so I did something about it,” he said. Thompson does consider cleaning up the bay as his way of “giving back” for his bi-weekly fishing trips.

Ironically, Thompson says he’s not even a tidy person. “Trash in the water just bugs me,” he said.

According to Thompson, the most common thing he pulls out of the water are empty chip bags, specifically Flamin’ Hot Cheetos. Other common items are drinking straws, medical gloves and styrofoam. He only picks out the non-biodegradable garbage, throwing back things like mangrove seeds and driftwood, which are beneficial for the ecosystem.

Thompson said the most interesting thing he’s found is a wallet. “But there wasn’t anything in it,” he said. Other interesting objects include shoes, a phone charging cord and a hypodermic needle.

As he works, passing students and faculty frequently stop out of curiosity. Some stop to watch, say nothing and continue on, while others ask questions. Although he does not seek any praise, people tend to thank or commend him while he cleans. Some students even comment how they would like to join him, although none have actually done so yet.

Thompson explained that he isn’t trying to set some kind of example. This is simply something he does because he wants to. Although, Thompson would welcome students who would like to join him during his routine. Thompson can typically be found by the waterfront on Mondays and Wednesdays around 2 p.m. When Thompson fills up his bag, he throws it in the closest trashcan, puts on his shoes and washes up. He doesn’t tell his friends or family about the work he’s doing because he doesn’t feel the need to.

“I don’t do this for attention,” he said.

Although Thompson may not be passionate about the environment, he is passionate about art. His dream is to create his own cartoon on Adult Swim. Thompson says he draws a lot of “ugly things” so he chose the business name Yugly for his work. He currently designs and sells iron-on patches.

Check him out here: Instagram: yuglyproductions http://yugly.storenvy.com/
“Santa Clarita Diet” divies into the seemingly normal lives of the Hammond family. Sheila Hammond (Drew Barrymore) wakes up one morning and tells her husband Joel (Timothy Olyphant) that she wishes she could live a life where she was a mere 20 percent bolder. Sheila may not have known it at the time but later that day she would conquer her quest for boldness.

Between a few stomach pains, a little more than a normal amount of vomit and a mysterious red ball Sheila’s life is changed for good. The Hammonds realize Shelia’s turns into a decomposing, flesh-eating monster. Sheila promises to only kill the people who deserve it. The prototype would be a young, single Hitler,” Joel decides. “Oh God, we’d be heroes,” Sheila agrees.

Though killing people, even the Hitler’s of the world proves to be a little more difficult than the two-actor’s first imagined. Especially when their Santa Clarita house is sandwiched in between a sheriff and a police office. Each scene in SCD is dripping with quick-witted humor. Between Joel confessing in random strangers that he encounters, Abby’s constant sarcastic remarks and Abby’s best friend Eric Berns (Skyler Gisondo) figuring out how to come out of his shell, viewers are almost able to forget that Barrymore’s character must feed on human flesh to survive.

From the moment the Hammonts realize Sheila’s heartbeat disappeared, Joel is determined to find a cure to fix the situation they’ve somehow stumbled into. Olyphant is magnificent in his role as Joel and carries the show’s comedic moments. Regardless of being faced with the morally compromising position of killing people to keep Sheila alive, Joel stands strong in his love for his undead wife. He proves that in the face of a great, yet confusing circumstance, once shouldn’t run for the hills, but rather fight in the face of great danger.

Abby is a little more distraught than her father in the face of the beast her mother has become. Sheila’s zombification leads Abby to skip school, steal motorcycles and try to take down a drug dealer. Luckily, Abby has Eric by her side who manages to keep her from taking anything too far. Despite one parent turning into a decomposing, flesh-eating monster, all Sheila and Joel care about at the end of the day is remaining good parents to Abby. In a show that surrounds one of the great evils of the world rest a message that even in the darkest of times all anyone really needs is a strong support system to get them through the roughest of times.

By Whitney Elfstrom
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**Review:** “Santa Clarita Diet” consists of human flesh & hilarity

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Everybody dies but not everybody lives. This may be true, however, what if it took dying to finally bring somebody to life? Now, this notion may sound impractical but in the case of the Netflix Original Series “Santa Clarita Diet” that is exactly what happens. Drew Barrymore plays a woman who lives a life marked by a chain of safe decisions. She’s a romantic who doesn’t bend the rules or make her quest for boldness. Between a few stomach pains, a little more than a normal amount of vomit and a mysterious red ball Sheila’s life is changed for good. The Hammonds realize that in the face of a great, yet confusing circumstance, once shouldn’t run for the hills, but rather fight in the face of great danger.

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The Crow’s Nest rates plays between one and five stars, with five stars being the highest possible score.

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Dances like these encourage heteronormative \textit{...}

\textbf{THE CROW'S NEST}
\textbf{FEBRUARY 20, 2017}

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\textbf{Daddy-daughter dances deeply divide}

\textbf{By Summer Muhar}
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\textbf{Earlier this month, a second-grade teacher at Eisenhow- er Elementary School in Clearwater was barred from attending her school's daddy-daughter dance, since her father isn't in the picture.}

The girl’s mom, Trisha Pala- ciot, tried to find male family friends to escort her 6-year-old Alyssa, to the dance, but that fell through. When Palacios decided she would take her daughter to the dance herself, school officials told her that wouldn’t be happening.

This heartbreaking news made the local NBC station.

Clips of little Alyssa gushing over the dress she was to wear to the event alternated with other clips of her mother sitting on her couch crying. But how unfair it was that they weren't permitted to go to the dance.

Thankfully, a pro-Trump group caught wind of the story and paid for the Palacios family to fly over to Mount Vernon for their daughter’s first daddy-daughter dance.

At elementary schools across the country, daddy-daughter dances are held in the days surrounding Valentine's Day.

These are basically self-ex- planatory: Dads and daugh- ters get dressed in their most formal attire and enjoy a night of family-friendly fun.

It’s a cherished bonding experience that many girls remember for years to come, and it also serves to let girls know what to expect from a future romantic partner.

Unfortunately, as seen in the situation above, not everyone gets to enjoy the tradition of the daddy-daughter dance.

Many little girls don’t have fathers in their lives. People get deported, send their country overseas, pass away unexpectedly or just decide to pack their things up one day and leave.

Even those who have a tradition- al family unit with a mom, a dad, two kids and a dog. There are other family figures in chil- dren’s lives and that’s okay.

There are only events like this for fathers and their daugh- ters, but not any for mothers and their daughters or fathers and their sons and rarely moth- ers and their sons.

Events like this only perpetu- ate the heteronormative stigma we hold so dearly in society. Often times LGBT couples will be excluded from interacting with routine life events and re- jected from these social spaces.

I believe that all genders should have a positive exam- ple of what to look for in a relationship. I also believe that girls without fathers shouldn’t be excluded from a fun night out. What’s the perfect solu- tion? An all-encompassing event that children can bring any family members to!

\textbf{Liberal Tigers: Protestors antagonized Trump supporters at post-election rally in Melbourne, FL last weekend.}

\textbf{OPINION}

\textbf{COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS}

\textbf{Original text}

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\textbf{Daddy Disaster:} Dances like these encourage heteronormative behavior and in the worst cases, they prevent single parents from supporting their children.

\textbf{THE CROW'S NEST}

\textbf{By Jonah Hinebaugh}
Freshman Journalism and Media Studies major
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\textbf{Wait at an intersection on Airport Bou- levard in Melbourne, a flurry of bright, colorful signs belonging to protesters contrast-}

ed with the red hats of President Donald Trump’s loyal follow- ers, each group waiting to join their respective sides.

As I arrived and entered the airport designated “First Amendment Zone,” I was greeted by some fine gentleman yelling at me from his large truck and giving me the middle finger. I wasn’t there to necessarily protest, but more to document the event, so I was surprised to get such attention for just having a camera and being on the protester side. I walked down the designated area that was marked off with orange plastic fencing, observing the hundreds of protesters that had already gathered from groups like Speak Out! Brevard and Women’s March Florida.

They chanted to the families across the road and to passing cars things like, “We say no to racism! Muslims are well here!” and “We need a leader, not a creepy tweeter!”

I worked my way to the front of the truck and started getting some camera shots. As I finished, the two gentlemen who cursed at me from their truck earlier made their appearance on the protester side wearing a shirt that said “Danger” above a picture of a middle finger.

He picked me out from the crowd and took some pictures of me (for payback of I don’t know what) before laughing and giving me that solid middle finger again. After pacing back and forth for awhile, I decided to cross the street to see if I could find any good photo opportunities. I crossed and one supporter adorned with a Trump flag recognized me from when he was antagonizing protestors. He confronted me, questioning me about being on “his side” and why I was able to cross the street as if he wasn’t just three minutes ago. I told him I wasn’t going to speak to him and as I walked away he called me a fascist, which is, in the words of our president, “Wrong!”

Besides a few more interactions with those same folks, nothing happened until protestors decided to lead the picketers in the street when the big guy pulled up in Air Force One. Protesters were confined to the edge of the field as Trump spoke, but soon enough supporters took notice and began trying to confront the group as they all, making for a tense situation. Several police officers showed up to separate the opposing groups. However, the officers weren’t successful in deterring every conflict.

In one such interaction, I witnessed a Vietnam War veteran, who supported Trump, confronting an older protester, screaming expletives in his face before another protester and a police officer stepped in. Another altercation started when a man, who was leaving, went up to a protester and his young daughter and said something about grabbing the daughter, prompting the father to push the man away as he screamed, “You will never touch my daughter.”

Besides that, there were a few people running through the crowd yelling back at the proto- testers and trying to provoke them until the crowd dispersed. Overall, it was exciting to see a strong group of progressives in a small conservative town protest an idiotic event. Trump won the presidency. Now is the time for him to gov- ern, not continue to throw campaign-style rallies. The speech was full of fame promises and a nice misquote of Thomas Jefferson, who actually didn’t oppose the media. I loved the experience of being antagonized by Trump’s fans. I especially enjoyed when the flag-bearing supporter or player of a sample of babbling crying as he drank from his “liberal tears” mug, extra salty of course. It’s definitely something you should check out if you have some free time.
We’d Love to Hear from You

The Crow’s Nest accepts letters to the editor. All submissions should be no more than 250 words. Writers must include their full name. In addition, USF faculty should include their title, department and extension. All letters are subject to editing for clarity and length. Letters can be sent to drodriguez7@mail.usf.edu with subject title “letter to the editor.”

Corrections:

Students lobby in Tallahassee for USF interests: In the article, the USF Morsani College of Medicine was misspelled.

Correction:

Making it through college involves more than an adequate IQ, rather it’s reliant on making time. If you’ve gotten this far, I’ll assume you’ve already been advised to “use your time wisely,” so I’ll avoid that tired platitude and get down to the nitty-gritty.

Here’s five tips for staying on top of all that college life entails, and then some.

1. Wake up early
   “Early” is a point of contention for the average teenager or twenty-something, so let’s say by 8 at the latest. By far the best part about getting up early is that, as Chief Hopper from Stranger Things would put it, “mornings are for coffee and contemplation.” With mug in hand, go outside and take a few breaths, do some stretches and go over your day. Review step by step each commitment and to-do, and take note of any available time slots that may fall in between. Now you’re ready.

2. Keep monthly and weekly calendars.
   Having two calendars is helpful if you use one for due dates and another for school/social dates such as your work and school schedule, appointments and meetings.

3. Designate a homework day
   Usually best if at the beginning or end of the week, homework day should be reserved for when you have the most amount of available time. It’s never easy to pick responsibility over relaxation but a good icebreaker can be filling out that week’s calendar.

4. Don’t stop until you’re done
   In order to accomplish tip number three, it is important to stick to tip number four. That means no TV, Facebook or Netflix breaks. Sure, sometimes you need to get up and walk around, this is fine as long as you don’t begin another task while not having completed your current goal.

5. Learn to say no and don’t overcommit
   Probably one of the most important aspects of being successful while enjoying yourself is learning to recognize your own limits. Over-committing can easily turn into overwhelming responsibility, so realizing you won’t be able to do something before you commit is an admirable trait. Likewise, being able to prioritize your needs and essentials will allow you to cut back on otherwise stressful commitments, such as a second job, an extra class or an extracurricular activity.

As with life, school is all about staying ahead of the curve. Sometimes you can only learn to roll with the punches by taking a few. I know I certainly did. Once you do though, you’ll find that it gets easier until it becomes natural, and that’s when the real fun starts. Take it from a senior.

By Lis Casanova
lis@mail.usf.edu

The Crow’s Corner: How to make time when you have none
African-American history month:
By Timothy Fanning
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This African-American history month, let’s discover new literature, music and film together. Every week in February I am going to search for material by African-American writers, musicians and filmmakers. I am doing this to help reinforce the idea that white people like me need to listen to voices that don’t sound like our own.

Topping many great African-American films and TV shows are classics like “The Color Purple,” “Roots” and “Boyz n the Hood.” However, the following films include feature dramas, comedies and documentaries produced in the last three years in order to emphasize that great African-American films are not a normality of the past.

Let’s open a bag of popcorn, and kick back to some of the most commanding and critically-acclaimed African-American films and TV shows of the last few years.

“13th” (2016, crime/documetary)

Filmmaker Ava DuVernay’s Netflix documentary chronicles how the U.S. criminal justice system has been driven by racism from enslavement to today’s era of mass incarceration. The film is named after the constitutional Thirteenth Amendment that abolished slavery with the exception of punishment for crime. This documentary is especially important because most of our high school history books taught us that slavery as a system ended when Abraham Lincoln signed the Thirteenth Amendment.

“Dear White People” (2014, satire/comedy-drama)

Samantha White’s new position as head of a traditionally black residence hall sets the stage for a college campus culture war. “Dear White People” is hilarious and at the same time offers an irreplaceable lesson on values. It’s not a comfortable movie by most standards, and it’s not intended to be. It’s a film about racism in America in what is alleged to be a post-racial era. It’s a movie that proclaims, “Why at this time in history do I still need to tell you people this stuff?”

“Dope” (2015, crime/drama)

In “Dope,” the main character, Malcolm, is carefully surviving life in a tough Los Angeles neighborhood. He’s juggling college applications, academic interviews and studying to pass the SAT. That is, until a lucky invitation to an underground party leads him into an adventure that could allow him to go from geek, to drug dealer, to ultimately finding himself somewhere in between.

“Hidden Figures” (2016, historical drama)

This is the incredible untold true story of brilliant African-American women working at NASA who served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: launching astronaut John Glenn into orbit. The visionary trio crossed all gender and racial lines to inspire later generations to dream big.

“Moonlight” (2016, drama)

The film is a personal and poetic meditation on identity, family, friendship and love. It is set in the 1980s during the height of the war on drugs, and gives us an intimate portrait of a young, gay black man living in a Miami housing project with his mother, who is addicticted.

“Moonlight” is profoundly meaningful in its portrayal of the moments, people and the estoteric forces that shape our lives.

“Selma” (2014, historical drama)

“Selma” tells the story of the campaign led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other Civil Rights’ Movement members to draw the nation’s attention to the struggle for equal voting rights by marching from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in March of 1965. Duvernay became the first African-American female director to have a film nominated for best picture at the Academy Awards. This film is especially important for anyone who still thinks the story of the Civil Rights no longer applies to American life decades later.

Film recommendations


Vague or explicit, the forecasts put out by future gunsman all too often go unadressed, but not unobserved. Similar to the difficulty of imagining a school shooting occurring here, most can’t picture someone they know having such horrendous motives.

If you notice someone going through hard times or exhibiting signs of distress, offer a helping hand. The correct course of action varies from scenario to scenario, but erring on the side of caution and trusting your instinct is always a smart move.

Being perceptive of those around you and reporting anything that just doesn’t feel right are the core lessons of preparation. Campus police would rather you alert them to a sketchy, but ultimately innocuous scenario, than let disaster occur.

This can be done through one of the blue emergency phones placed throughout campus, or their telephone number, 727-873-4444.

“As a student, you’re going to know suspects or threats much sooner than us,” stated Sgt. Dye. “The police need the community. You’re our eyes and ears.”